FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 055 *20 March 1984*

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin Speaks on Latin American Integration B 1
Agreements With Cuba Signed; Trade To Increase B 4
Grinspun: 'Recessive Bailouts' Not Acceptable B 5
CGT Gives Positive Answer to Alfonsin Proposals B 5

BRAZIL

Chaves Discusses Elections, Foreign Debt D 1
[LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST 14 Mar]
Ex-President Geisel To Campaign for Chaves D 2
CMN Decentralizes Foreign Exchange Operations [O GLOBO 16 Mar] D 2

CHILE

Justice Minister on Safe-Conducts Issue E 1
Truckers Call Off Protest Scheduled for 26 March E 1
Two Persons Detained for Planting Bombs E 1
Communist Party Hideout Raided; Five Arrested E 1
'Terrorists' Blast Power Pole in Santiago E 2
Judge Temporarily Bans FORTIN MAPOCHO Newspaper E 2
Carabineros Confiscate Issues E 2
Briefs: Ambassadors to Paraguay, Canada E 2

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister Criticizes U.S. Drug Policy [EL TIEMPO 10 Mar] F 1
Authorities Detain Honduran Boat, Crew F 1
Rebel Attack on Township Leaves Four Dead F 2
EPL Ambush, Activities To Be Investigated F 2
M-19 Allegedly Dynamites Aircraft Hangars F 2
Clashes With Troops F 3
Betancur Says Talks To Continue With Guerrillas F 3

PERU

Economy Minister Rodriguez Pastor Resigns J 1
Interior Minister Interviewed on General Strike J 1
State of Siege Lifted in Emergency Area J 2
EFE 'Economic Crisis' Wrap-UP, 1983 Statistics J 3

URUGUAY

Armed Forces, Politicians Near Agreement K 1
Imminent Release of Former General Awaited K 1
Seregni Set Free K 1

VENEZUELA

Foreign Minister Comments on C.A. Elections L 1
[EL NACIONAL 12 Mar]
Briefs: Public Debt Figures; 1983 Hydrocarbon Exports L 2

MEXICO

Sepulveda Visits France, FRG on European Tour M 1
Reportage on French Visit [cross-reference] M 1
Statement on Return M 1
Sepulveda Sends New OAS Head Congratulatory Note M 1
U.S. Deportation of PSUM Leader Protested M 1
[EL SOL DE MEXICO 17 Mar]
Soviet Diplomat Comments on Nuclear Arms Race M 2
New Cuban Ambassador Says Relations Excellent M 2

PANAMA

Illueca Questioned on U.S. Troop Deployments N 1
Foreign Ministry Denies Construction of U.S. Base [YA 17 Mar] N 1
Workers Party: 'Intervention' [YA 16 Mar] N 2
Workers Party Condemns U.S. Actions in C.A. [YA 19 Mar] N 2
Paredes Comments on Coup Rumors, Elections [LA PRENSA 15 Mar] N 3
Vice President Ozores To Remain on Canal Board N 4
Candidates To Be Given Air Time on State Radio [YA 17 Mar] N 4
PdP Presidential Candidate Discusses Issues N 5

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Civil Guard, Red Cross Respond to Contras P 1
Atlantic Coast Termed 'Subversive Enclave' P 1

EL SALVADOR

PDC's Duarte Promises Work on Economy, Peace P 2
ARENA Broadcast Names Alleged Killer of Romero P 3
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 19 Mar]
Foreign Minister Calls for Talks With FMLN-FDR P 3
Government, Rebel Military Activity Reported P 4
Campaign To Disrupt Elections P 4
FMLN Claims Victory [Venceremos] P 5
FMLN: Clash on Coastal Highway [Venceremos] P 5
FMLN Sabotages Electric Power [Venceremos] P 5
COPREFA: 31 Guerrillas Killed P 6
Pan-American Highway Blocked P 6
FMLN Addresses U.S. Soldiers 'Next to Border' P 6
[Farabundo Marti]
Venceremos Condemns New U.S. Aid Appropriation P 7
Venceremos Charges U.S., Honduran Aid in Attacks P 8
FMLN Commander on U.S. Honduran 'Intervention' P 8
FMLN Warns Against Forcing People To Vote [Venceremos] P 9

GUATEMALA

Government Rejects UN Human Rights Charges P 10
Army Says Document Reveals URNG Terrorism Plan P 11
Murder, Kidnapping Plotted P 11
Police Raid House, Free Kidnapped Businessman P 12
Anticommunist Unification Party Registered P 12

HONDURAS

Combined Maneuvers Begin With U.S. Forces P 12
Government Protests to Colombia on Border Claim [TIEMPO 19 Mar] P 13
'Heavily Armed People' Abduct Lottery Official P 13

NICARAGUA

Ortega: 'U.S.-Organized' Contras Attack Borders P 14
Official Cites Danger of U.S. 'Invasion' P 14
Delegation Departs for Talks in Soviet Union P 15
Ex-Minister Godoy on Resignation, PLI Plans P 15
Social Christians Challenge FSLN To Debate [LA PRENSA 13 Mar] P 19
11 Dead, 1 Missing After Attack in Jinotega P 20
Briefs: SELA Aid; Libyan Investment Project; Bulgarian Mining Experts Arrive P 20

CUBA

Castro, Angolan President Sign Joint Declaration Q 1
Dos Santos Honors Jose Marti Q 1
Leaders Meet for Talks Q 1
Delegation Visits Isle of Youth Q 1
Bilateral Issues Discussed Q 1
Talks Conclude Q 2
Joint Declaration Issued Q 2
Economic Meetings Held With Algerian Delegation Q 4
Scientific Delegation Arrives in Prague Q 4
Mexican IMSS Delegation Arrives for Meetings Q 4
ECLA Conference To Begin in Lima on 29 Mar Q 5
UN Human Rights Commission Views El Salvador Q 5
NEWSWEEK Photographer Killed in El Salvador Q 5
Journalists Demand Investigation Q 5
Interview With Salvadoran Guerrilla Leader Ungo Q 6
El Salvador's FMLN Condemns Electoral Practices Q 7
FMLN Foils Army Offensive in Eastern El Salvador Q 7
Takes Initiative Q 8
Launches New Campaign Q 8
Army Suffers 45 Casualties Q 8
SELA Committee Will Continue Aid to Nicaragua Q 9
Borge Cited on U.S.-Nicaragua Tensions Q 9
Nicaragua Issues Joint Communique With Iran Q 9
Nicaraguan Minister Resigns To Run in Elections Q 10
PCCh Asks Chilean Army To Join People's Struggle Q 10
Ecuador Government Militarizes Oil Installations Q 10

CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

St Luce Submits Tax-Free Budget to House S 1

DOMINICA

Government Extends Prevention of Terrorism Act S 2

GRENADA

Jamaican Lawyer To Defend Some Coup Detainees S 2

HAITI

Secret Police Head Named To Monitor Human Rights S 2

JAMAICA

Seaga Closes Cement Plant, Issues Statement S 3

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Government Closes Radio Station, Seeks Director V 1

ECUADOR

Esmeraldas, Napo-Pastaza Return to Normal V 1

ALFONSIN SPEAKS ON LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION

PY200113 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2320 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Speech by President Raul Alfonsin at Mar del Plata theater-auditorium at the opening ceremony of the first Ibero-american meeting of notaries on 19 March -- live]

[Excerpts] Our struggle in favor of Latin American integration and our preaching to seek a greater rapprochement between our peoples started many years ago. Our proposal favoring the creation of a permanent forum of Latin American democratic political parties, with the idea of this forum becoming the essential and irreplaceable tool to achieve these objectives I just mentioned, is also well known.

From the historical point of view, the Argentine Republic has undoubtedly been linked to Latin America since the beginning of our independence process in the last century. This desire for integration, which has been constantly upheld by our country throughout time, does not represent a mere rhetorical turning point for this national government that was elected by the people. It is the clear and sincere expression of a policy and feeling of the Argentine nation.

During the past few years the international situation has increasingly shown signs of deteriorating to the detriment of international peace, development, and security. There is no doubt that the current acute economic crisis, the increasing violence and armed conflicts, the arms race, and the progressive confrontation of the superpowers are only contributing to maintaining and worsening the current overall poverty and injustice which the developing countries are experiencing.

The international community does not now accept the view that the current world political and economic situation is made exclusively within the sphere of the East-West confrontation. This restricted and arbitrary perception of reality not only means ignoring the real and historical causes of underdevelopment but also leads to mistaken conclusions and suggesting or trying to impose solutions on the developing countries that are not in keeping with their socioeconomic reality.

In the international arena, Argentina is willing to join the progressive forces and those of greater change in the socioeconomic, cultural, and technological fields.

With this, our country will return to its historic and original principles of freedom, progress, and democracy on which the founders of our country based their beliefs and actions. Because of these principles, Argentina's international presence and actions elicited in due time the acknowledgment and sympathy of the brotherly Latin American nations.

My government is determined to resume that path, which seeks the real independence and development of the people. However, we are convinced that we will not be able to walk along that path without maintaining sincere respect for the fundamental principles of international coexistence. By keeping out of the domestic and foreign affairs of other states; forsaking the use of force or the threat of the use of force; eliminating colonialism and every other form of foreign domination; putting an end to racial, ideological, and religious discrimination; attaining economic progress; and enforcing human rights effectively must constitute the legal framework for the development of all kinds of relations between the Latin American countries. Therefore, this political belief clearly shows that the Argentine Government's international actions will be primarily aimed at Latin America.

We will act with patience, humility, and imagination. With patience because we are aware of the concrete limitations which preclude the prompt fulfillment of our immense work. With humility because the Republic of Argentina does not wish to assume a hegemonic and arrogant leadership. With imagination because the international framework, which is going through a transition period and is facing new challenges, compels us to seek and to carry out concerted actions to satisfy the just desires for progress, culture, and freedom of our societies.

With a sense of fraternity and mutual respect for national interests, Argentina will increase its cooperation with all the countries of the region. Argentina is also determined to promote an economic and political integration process that will benefit all the Latin American peoples.

Integration is one of the most marvelous ventures of international relations and modern diplomacy. I am certainly not referring to a political and military integration to fight against an alleged or real enemy or to confront other ideologies. Of course, I am also not thinking of integration in terms of a policy of power in the international and diplomatic framework.

The advantages of integration are based on the need to build a better world, a world of human solidarity in which all peoples and all individuals, regardless of their race, religion, or situation, will find the best opportunities. In other words, I am thinking in terms of a policy of cooperation, because we are convinced that we must create economic frontiers for the peace of our region. In other words, I am thinking in terms of morale. This cooperation is important for the international community, but even more so for Latin America. We will do our best to create all possible means to strengthen regional unity.

This is the great purpose of integration: to turn the Latin American countries into a powerful union, as powerful as their vast human and economic resources, to work for the concurrence of our interests with a resolute political will, and to use all the resources we have at hand in seeking that objective. We must convince ourselves that this is absolutely necessary, since our survival as independent nations is at stake because of the devastating attack of transnational policy. We must then generate a strong and creative solidarity which will also have an ethical and realistic criterion.

Only in the face of this challenge, so great as well as provoking, will it be understood why I have asserted that integration is one of the most marvelous adventures of our day. The international situation we are currently experiencing is not only serious, it is very serious. Consciously or unconsciously, we are walking on the brink of an abyss that we have reached due to an international framework that has not been able to satisfy the needs of the international community and of those peoples that form it. The outcome of these distortions are increasingly alarming and affect every field.

Couldn't we foresee direct or indirect support to the solution of our old-time territorial conflicts in our integration process? Do I need to refer to what is happening in the commercial field and recall that the objectives established at an international level in the postwar period were overlooked, right from the beginning, by the industrialized countries to the detriment of the development of the underdeveloped nations? Do I need to point out that the same thing happened more and more often with other exportable goods of our countries when the industrialized countries started adopting increasingly rigid and selfish protectionist policies? Do I need to talk about what is happening in the financial and monetary fields in which a changing policy of technical requirements and profitability were imposed in favor of the main countries' public and private interests to the determint of the developing countries?

Latin America has been particularly affected. Its international commerce has stopped growing -- it has even receded -- and its economic growth has come to a standstill and in many areas does not even keep pace with the demographic growth. The developing countries' foreign debt has had a particular impact on that growth.

In the first place, we must confront this somber panorama with our national will, which is what our government is determined to do. At the same time, we must convince ourselves that it is quite unlikely that we will be successful if we act alone. This is what justifies the urgent need for integration. Therefore, the idea of integration is not encouraged by visionaries or utopians. It is a conception that adjusts to the problems that many impoverished countries have to confront in the midst of the most cruel reality. Every leader, undoubtedly, has the duty of being a visionary and even a utopian, but he also has the duty of being a realistic and pragmatic administrator. It is within the exercise of these two attitudes that the integration policy must be conceived and implemented.

Mr Chairman [addressing Nestor Perez Lozano, chairman of the Argentine Federal Council of Notaries], the vast task we wish to carry out in Latin America must be based on concrete and effective plans.

We must reorganize and strengthen Latin America's institutions in a coherent and coordinated system. So far, they have been created due to certain needs and promptings which are rather circumstantial, and they function too independently from each other and even in apparent contradiction, as if they did not respond to the same governments. SELA [Latin American Economic System], ALADI [Latin America Integration Association], the Andean Group, the Central American Common Market, the CARICOM, the OLADE [Latin American Energy Organization], the River Plate Basin, and the Amazon Pact are part of the same whole and they must function as such. They are forums in which we must establish the Latin American strategy and put into effect the effective plans for its implementation. They must tell us what the institutions of industrial countries have told them and, beyond the difference of national interests, they must generate and channel those expressions of solidarity which in fact exist in increasingly more advanced levels of cooperation and integration.

A fundamental part of this strategy is to determine and put into effect a regional preference. It should not deal only with a commercial preference involving tariffs, but a preference that will encompass all possible fields of the economy. This presence [as heard] is the sole valid answer to the protectionist policy of the industrial countries. Only two examples are enough in my judgment to illustrate this point: How can it be possible that Latin America imports $49,682,000,000 worth of manufactured goods, including capital goods, and only $4,116,000,000 are of regional origin? How can it be possible that Latin America imports $9,742,000,000 worth of food per year and only $2,158,000,000 are of regional origin?

Moreover, we must also put an end to the incipient isolationism which jeopardizes the common efforts of our countries. It is quite understandable that the first reaction to the situation is to shut ourselves in our own circle and try to hand our problems over to our neighbor, but we must understand that this will only aggravate the situation. I am particularly referring to a practice of bureaucratic red tape which is becoming widespread. We must put an end to this situation and commit ourselves not to return to the same practice in the future, thus beginning an effective program of gradually eliminating this practice.

The shortage of currency which limits our development potentials must be substituted by new nonconvential formulas, especially in matters concerning commerce. Possibilities of compensated exchange agreements must be exploited and practiced with no hesitation. Moreover, the same current difficulties -- although they may appear in different forms -- have led the countries that most zealously defend liberalism, including multinational companies, to accept these agreements, beyond the limits of free trade, to the point that an increasingly more important part of international trade is taking part in them. I am pleased to point out that significant progress was achieved on this matter at the recent meeting of the Argentine-Mexican joint commission, and that important agreements will be signed during the forthcoming visit of the Mexican president to our country.

The activation of regional trade and of the regional economy demands new formulas of financial and monetary cooperation. We must strengthen the Santo Domingo Agreement on compensation payments and put into effect some of the programs prepared at the regional level by several institutions, at least in a progressive manner.

Integration not only requires the participation of governments but also of the great protagonists of economic and social life, the public and private firms, cooperatives, labor unions, professionals, and academicians.

Messrs representatives, integration is not only an economic but also a political venture. For this reason, our parliaments must also gradually join this venture. Although we respect the domestic situation of each of our countries, we cannot stop voicing our deep conviction that integration will be successful only if it is based on democracy and the participation of the peoples. I could mention many other examples because the subject of incegration is very vast.

I must tell you that some times, driven by enthusiasm, I see on the horizon immediate integration and interconnected projects, above all with our bordering countries, which would certainly change the present situation. However, I believe that these clearly defined projects are possible and real. They form part of the program of actions approved by the SELA during a recent meeting in Quito and of the agenda of ALADI's foreign ministers council which will meet next month. In both cases, we have and we will continue to clearly and concretely establish priority measures to attain once and for all Latin American influence. Argentina will support the most far-reaching and advanced projects to promote Latin American integration.

I do not want to conclude this speech without expressing gratitude for the fruitful work carried out by this association in favor of Latin America, and my government's determination to help the association attain its objectives. I hereby declare open the sessions of the Ibero-American notaries congress. Thank you very much.

AGREEMENTS WITH CUBA SIGNED; TRADE TO INCREASE

PY191256 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Secretary of Commerce Ricardo Campero will this morning return from a tour that took him to the GDR and Cuba. It is being said that import agreements were signed in Cuba during his stay. Argentine sales to Cuba will soar from $120 million to $300 million in 1984. Although several agreements were scheduled to be signed in Buenos Aires, other agreements were struck which become effective immediately. Among the latter is one in which Argentina will establish customs privileges for Cuban products under the Latin American Integration Association, ALADI. In turn, Argentine technology will be exported through state agencies.

GRINSPUN: 'RECESSIVE BAILOUTS' NOT ACCEPTABLE

PY191215 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] We are going to report now on the statements made by Argentine Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun. Referring to the foreign debt, Grinspun told the press that all steps in the economic field which jeopardize the democratic process will be shunned. Grinspun stressed that no decisions that could lead to social unrest will be made and that without growth neither Argentina nor any other country will be able to settle their foreign debt. Therefore, Grinspun concluded, we will not accept recessive bailouts.

CGT GIVES POSITIVE ANSWER TO ALFONSIN PROPOSALS

PY170125 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1724 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Mar (TELAM) -- The General Confederation of Labor (CGT) has noted that because of the present national situation it must call on all political parties, all social and business organizations, youth organizations, and religious organizations of every nature to join efforts to establish a wide national front that will support the government. This is included in answer to President Raul Alfonsin submitted today at noon at Government House by union leader Saul Ubaldini, who noted that this was done so that the country may find a proper path and thus protect democracy, national interests, and in practice achieve a true national liberation.

The answer states that we, of course, fully agree on the need for the Armed Forces to be subordinated to civilian power and that it should carry out those activities that are proper functions and not head production enterprises or units. It adds that the CGT agrees with the idea of a savings plan, but one that upholds a reasonable level of efficiency. We also agree on the importance of establishing a minimum salary with an escalator clause based on reasonable limits in keeping with the dignity of the workers, with an improvement and an increase of the real salary, with the curbing of inflation, with the control on the cost of living, and with the implementation of an economic plan that serves the workers.

It notes that we fully agree, in general terms, with all the proposals that are made to us, but we clearly note that there are no specific answers to those problems that the CGT submitted to the president, so that by granting them a preferential treatment we would at least be able to see a sign of a solution to these problems. The statement is signed by union leaders Jorge Triaca, Saul Ubaldini, Osvaldo Borda, and Ramon Baldasini.

Ubaldini said that the dialogue with the government is open: If it were otherwise, we would not be here expressing our points of view.

The CGT believes that it is feasible to call the joint labor commissions and it requests the immediate calling of a council on minimum salaries with escalator clauses and its active participation. It adds that the guidelines established for our country by the IMF remain unchanged and that the people do not know whether there is an economic policy.

It notes that the announced plan to control prices has resulted in a complete failure and it also notes the need to improve the situation of retired workers. It also states that there is an imperious need to implement new guidelines that will promote the development of national savings to the productive field and not to the promotion of speculation. Regarding health, the CGT reasserts that all social works that come under law No 18,610 are the inalienable patrimony of workers. On education, the CGT states that it upholds unrestricted entrance to national universities.

CHAVES DISCUSSES ELECTIONS, FOREIGN DEBT

PY151710 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST in English 14 Mar 84 p 1

[By Steve Yolen]

[Text] Brasilia -- Brazilian Vice President Aureliano Chaves met the Brazilian foreign press corps Tuesday in an encounter which showed the front-running presidential candidate to be adept at dodging difficult questions. Chaves, who according to a poll released over the weekend leads in public preference at the moment to be the next president of Brazil, met with members of the foreign press for the first time at his campaign headquarters in the Brasal I Building in Brasilia. During a 90-minute give-and-take with representatives of AP, UPI, THE NEW YORK TIMES, TASS, BUSINESS WEEK, THE GUARDIAN, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, AFP, REUTERS, and the LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST, Chaves proved to be a true follower of the Hubert Humphrey school of public speaking -- giving long, fuzzy, rambling answers to reasonably specific questions.

But the meeting with the vice president did produce some moments of clarity. For one thing, Chaves admitted that he knew "very little" about foreign affairs when asked by the TASS correspondent if he thought the recent increase in tension between the East and West blocs would harm Brazil. He then declined to answer THE NEW YORK TIMES' request to say exactly how he planned to capture the presidency, especially if he would change over to or start up a different political party, saying he thought the question was "very important" but that he didn't "answer hypothetical questions." As a matter of fact, he showed true sagacity by replying, "It would be an obvious demonstration of political inexperience if I answered this question."

Chaves called the news conference with the foreign resident press in order, according to his aides, to publicize his upcoming trip to the U.S., which begins on Sunday. But when asked about the three-day visit to Washington and New York, he seemed remarkably unenthusiastic, saying it was merely a "courtesy " visit. Chaves will meet U.S. Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz and, perhaps, President Reagan. He also has scheduled a trip to Hyde Park, the birthplace of Franklin D. Roosevelt, a figure the Brazil vice president said he admired deeply because of his "innovating spirit."

Direct Elections

Chaves reiterated his well-known position of being the only PDS party presidential candidate to be in favor of an immediate return to direct elections.

And he also repeated his call for "political negotiations" with Brazil's creditors. When asked to elaborate on what he meant, Chaves simply said that while Brazil certainly had to pay back what it owed to international banks, there had to be an understanding on the part of the banks and the International Monetary Fund that this country was "different" and that the IMF's orthodox policies would not necessarily work here. "Classical economic measures don't necessarily work in Brazil," he said. The proof was that they had all been tried "and still we see rising inflation while at the same time we are mired in a recession. We obviously need different solutions." He did not say what solutions he would put into effect were he elected president, just that "we have to invent others."

He was pretty clear on one point regarding the debt: He did not believe that it would do any good for Brazil to join with other indebted Latin American nations to try to develop a common front to negotiate as a sort of "debtor's club" against the international banks. "Each country's problems are quite different," he said.

Chaves said that it was his opinion that the military revolution of 1964, which overthrew the elected government of Joao Goulart and in which he has played a major part, has been "true to its ideals except for a temporary period." By this it was understood that he meant the revolution backslid in 1968 when the military regime enacted Institutional Acts that closed Congress, set up censorship, and began a physical campaign to eliminate left-wing subversion that saw the Army and security forces take heavy-handed action against suspected foes. But he praised Presidents Ernesto Geisel and Joao Figueiredo for bringing democratic ideals back into the forefront and pushing for the full redemocratization of Brazil.

He said his personal position in favor of direct elections had remained unchanged during these years even though he himself had been indirectly elected to the governorship of Minas Gerais state and the vice presidency of the nation. "My thoughts haven't changed. Those who interpret my thinking have changed their way of thinking about me," he said.

Chaves said he could understand the protectionist attitudes of other nations, especially the U.S., and said that he likewise reserved the right to enact protectionist measures in Brazil if he thought that was the best way to protect Brazilian trade interests. "The problem is to decide if that really is the best way," he said in reply to a question about Brazilian Government policy reserving segments of the data processing market for local firms. "Actually, I haven't formed an opinion yet on this issue," he declared.

After his press conference, one of Chaves' press aides asked the foreign reporters how they thought his man had done. "A bit vague," one commented. "Well, that's what a politician is all about," was the reply.

EX-PRESIDENT GEISEL TO CAMPAIGN FOR CHAVES

PY191138 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Former President Ernesto Geisel will plunge body and soul into the Aureliano Chaves campaign. In the understanding of the former president, the PDS [Social Democratic Party] cannot impose a candidate on the nation without popular support. He has already made up a schedule for trips around the country, but will contact national political leaders before he starts traveling.

CMN DECENTRALIZES FOREIGN EXCHANGE OPERATIONS

PY191434 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Mar 84 p 19

[Text] Brasilia -- The National Monetary Council (CMN) yesterday decided to decentralize foreign exchange operations, after 8 months during which these operations were centralized at the Central Bank by Resolution 851 of 29 July 1983. Resolution 898, signed by Central Bank President Affonso Celso Pastore, which was released yesterday, ended the centralization of foreign exchange operations but continued the policy that values of payment of installments on principal and interest on more than 1-year financing for imports will continue to be deposited at the Central Bank. According to Director of the Central Bank's foreign operations Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, these operations will continue to be centralized because there is a need to distinguish the debts which were refinanced with the Paris Club from those which were renegotiated with private creditor banks.

JUSTICE MINISTER ON SAFE-CONDUCTS ISSUE

PY192053 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpts] While dedicating the military school's academic year, Justice Minister Hugo Rosende said that the opposition has not attained its goal of driving the country into chaos thanks to the rules that govern the transition period.

Regarding the issue of the refugees at the Apostolic Nunciature, he said that those criticizing the head of state because he has not yet resolved the problem are either ill-intentioned or they are not totally aware of the real problem. He said that the head of state cannot adopt a decision right now, noting, however, that President Pinochet would obviously like to honor the Holy Father's request by granting safe-conducts to the refugees.

TRUCKERS CALL OFF PROTEST SCHEDULED FOR 26 MARCH

PY191833 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The truckers have called off their protest that was scheduled for 26 March. This information was confirmed by Julio Lagos, secretary general of the Chilean Truck Owners Confederation. Lagos said that the reason for this step was that all their petitions were looked into and solved. Such requests were [words indistinct]. In turn, the steering committee of the Truckers Confederation will meet this afternoon to take other steps in keeping with the political times the country is undergoing.

TWO PERSONS DETAINED FOR PLANTING BOMBS

PY191330 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1532 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 18 Mar (EFE) -- Police sources today confirmed that two persons were arrested for allegedly planting bombs on 16 March, when nearly 30 bombs went off in Santiago, Concepcion, and Valparaiso. The detainees were identified as Carolos Guillermo Perez Figueroa, a 24-year-old single mechanic, and Antonio Roman Yanez, a 29-year-old single professor of social sciences. Perez and Yanez were detained early Saturday morning near one of the sites that were bombed. Eyewitnesses reportedly identified them as members of a commando that attacked a taxi driver.

The "Patriotic Front Manual Rodriguez" claimed credit for the attacks. Through letters and telephone calls this organization has claimed credit for other attacks, including the recent one against the Radio Carrera studio in Santiago.

COMMUNIST PARTY HIDEOUT RAIDED; FIVE ARRESTED

PY191355 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The police have raided a hideout of the outlawed Communist Party. Five persons were arrested for their involvement in a case in which police found a mimeograph machine and abundant printed subversive material which included propaganda material and plans and instructions to carry out attacks like those that took place Friday evening. Police sources said that the mimeograph machine was located at 6473 La Feria Avenue. Police also found blueprints of union buildings, locations of power pylons, electric transformers, Carabineros and intelligence buildings, and of the metropolitan railroad. The plans included instructions for attacks that have already been carried out as well as for future operations. All were part of a so-called March plan which included attacks against public buildings and services. According to police sources, the house was the hideout of some subversives who took part in the dynamite attacks that were carried out Friday evening. It is expected that within a few hours the CNI [National Intelligence Center] will issue a communique on the identity of those arrested.

'TERRORISTS' BLAST POWER POLE IN SANTIAGO

PY200118 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpt] A new attack against installations of Chilectra [Chilean Electric Company, Ltd] has been reported in Santiago. The terrorist attack this time affected an electric power pole at 2,289 Vicuna MacKenna Avenue, in Santiago. The explosion caused considerable damage, resulting in a power failure within a 300 meter radius. The police report states that investigations began immediately.

JUDGE TEMPORARILY BANS FORTIN MAPOCHO NEWSPAPER

PY131702 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A court has banned the publication and circulation of the newspaper FORTIN MAPOCHO until a decision is adopted in connection with the suit filed against it. The newspaper directors are facing charges from the Interior Ministry of violating the domestic security law. Jorge Donoso and Sergio Arellanos, the newspaper's director and legal representative, respectively, testified before Judge Juan Gonzalez yesterday. At the end of the audience, the two men were permitted to leave the courthouse.

Carabineros Confiscate Issues

PY171919 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0454 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 16 Mar (EFE) -- A printed page with the FORTIN MAPOCHO newspaper masthead was distributed on Santiago's streets today to explain the government obstacles that impeded the publication of the second issue of the newspaper. The printed page carries an editorial, a statement issued by the board of the weekly, and a statement issued by persons and organizations expressing their solidarity with the newspaper.

Because of the distribution of the printed page, Carabineros arrested Nestor Burgos and confiscated 200 issues of the newspaper.

FORTIN MAPOCHO, which was a masthead used by a newspaper in 1945, published a number 0 issue and a number 1 issue, which included several articles criticizing the military regime.

After the first issue, government lawyers presented a court injunction stating that the newspaper was only allowed to have a restricted circulation. FORTIN MAPOCHO will not be allowed to circulate until the courts reach a decision on the case.

The newspaper is headed by attorney Jorge Donoso. Its main owner is former Christian Democratic Senator Jorge Lavandero, who heads a board made up of well-known political figures from the Communist, Socialist, and Christian Democratic Parties.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS TO PARAGUAY, CANADA -- Santiago, 14 Mar (EFE) -- General Hector Orozco and Mario Silva, the new ambassadors to Paraguay and Canada, respectively, today said farewell to President Augusto Pinochet. The diplomats received last instructions before travelling to their respective countries. The Chilean president also received Hernan Sanchez, the new consul general in Sao Paulo. Sanchez had been serving as Foreign Ministry protocol director. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1303 GMT 14 Mar 84 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES U.S. DRUG POLICY

PA192057 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Mar 84 pp 1-a, 3-a

[By Hector Gonzalez B.]

[Excerpt] The United States must change its strategy to fight drug traffic, since the main problem is U.S. domestic consumption. This statement was made yesterday by Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo.

An education campaign to disuade users would be more effective than customs controls that could harm the normal flow of legal trade. The minister said that if the controls result in abuses, Colombia would file diplomatic protests. Lloreda Caicedo said, however, that the situation is not too grave, that what has happened is that there is a series of customs controls on the entry of ships, planes, "and, of course, passengers from Colombia as part of a campaign they have put into effect to fight drug trafficking." The minister, based on complaints that have been received, believes that some abuses have been committed, and the Colombian Government has made this known to the U.S. authorities.

Lloreda Caicedo added that the government has contacted all the Colombian consulates in the United States, and that it is possible that there will be a report on the situation in the next few hours. The Colombian official said that according to reports the situation has returned to normal, and that he hopes the United States changes its strategy in the fight against drug traffic. Gustavo Tobon Londono, director of the Colombian Foreign Trade Institute, has confirmed that the commercial flow is back to normal.

Lloreda Caicedo stated: "An education campaign could be more successful in fighting the U.S. domestic consumption problem than customs controls, because it is a fact that there is drug trafficking in spite of these controls." He added: "The efforts we have made here and which they can make there to stop the illegal traffic must be complemented with a drastic reduction in consumption in the United States."

AUTHORITIES DETAIN HONDURAN BOAT, CREW

PA191955 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] San Andres -- A Honduran boat with 40 alleged fishermen on board was detained by National Navy patrols while sailing in Colombian territorial waters. Alberto Charry Samper, captain of the San Andres Naval Command, this morning confirmed that the fishing boat was seized Sunday while sailing off Quita Sueno Cay in the Colombian archipelago. The Honduran boat, which was not described, was detained a few hours after the Honduran Foreign Ministry sent a protest note to the Colombian Government in connection with President Belisario Betancur's recent visit to Serranilla Cay. Honduras claims that Serranilla Cay falls under its jurisdiction. According to Captain Charry Samper, the boat and its 40 crew members are being held at the San Andres Naval Command facility. After conducting the appropriate investigations, the Colombian naval authorities will determine the alleged Honduran fishermen's legal status, as well as the fate of the boat.

REBEL ATTACK ON TOWNSHIP LEAVES FOUR DEAD

PA181515 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Monteria -- Three persons were seriously wounded in a guerrilla attack this morning on the township of Sahagun, and two policemen and two civilians were killed. The commander of Cordoba Police Department, Colonel Julio Eliseo Munevar Perez, talked about the attack with Supernoticias:

[Begin recording] Good morning. Unfortunately I must inform the public that at 0200, in Corregimiento El Crucero in the jurisdiction of the municipality of Sahagun, six to eight rebels intimidated the population and the police who were maintaining order there on the occasion of the patron saint festivities. The individuals opened fire on the policemen, killing Julio Leon and Manuel Agustin Bermejo Beleno. William Hernandez and Evaristo Vergara Hoyos were also victims of this criminal attack. Ester Palencia, 14, and Domingo Barreto Flores and Tomas Antonio Barreto Lobo were wounded and hospitalized. [end recording]

The Army launched pursuit operations after the rebel attack.

EPL AMBUSH, ACTIVITIES TO BE INVESTIGATED

PA192012 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Bogota -- The national government will appoint a special criminal judge to investigate an ambush that the Popular Liberation Army [EPL] staged against an Army patrol. An NCO and a soldier died in the ambush, while four soldiers were wounded. The official assigned to the investigation will have to look into the terrorist actions by which the EPL has launched a resurgence in the Departments of Antioquia and Cordoba.

Last month, the EPL carried out 20 attacks on various corregimientos and villages in this region. Second Corporal Miguel Berrio Castano and soldier Fernando Vasquez Arsila died in the ambush. Soldiers John Robledo Carvajal, Fernando Sanchez Celis, Eduardo Restrepo Zavallo, and Jose Usuga Osorio were wounded and hospitalized in Turbo. The guerrillas staged the action at an isolated site on the road between the municipality of (San Pedro de Uraba) and Turbo.

M-19 ALLEGEDLY DYNAMITES AIRCRAFT HANGARS

PA192030 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Alleged members of the clandestine M-19 [19 April Movement] have staged a new terrorist attack on the outskirts of Ibague, this time against the hangars of a crop-dusting company. Three light aircraft were damaged in the attack.

According to the authorities, the alleged guerrillas planted powerful dynamite charges in the hangars of the (Otra) Crop-Dusting Company, on the road between Espinal and Chicoral, where six light aircraft had been parked. One of the aircraft was destroyed and two others were seriously damaged. The Ibague police immediately began to investigate, but it has not yet been determined whether this terrorist action was really carried out by members of the outlawed M-19 or whether the perpetrators were common criminals.

Clashes With Troops

PA191333 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Florencia -- Both the Army and columns of the outlawed M-19 [19 April Movement] have suffered an undetermined number of casualties in the last few hours in the course of fierce fighting that has been taking place since last Wednesday's foiled attempt at seizing Florencia. Accoridng to preliminary reports, clashes took place on Saturday between units of Operative Command No 12 and members of the column led by Gustavo Arias Londono, Alias Boris, in (Gabinete), 30 km from Florencia. Other clashes occurred early on Sunday in areas near the capital of Caqueta. It has been learned that at least four soldiers, including a sergeant named Balbuena, a corporal, and two soldiers were killed during the clashes on Sunday, and that four others were injured. Two military men and five guerrillas were killed on Saturday. An undetermined number of insurgents were reportedly killed during yesterday's clashes.

In the meantime, Army troops are continuing their rigorous patrol of the entire area. It has been learned that the column which tried to seize Florencia on Wednesday is practically surrounded by the regular troops, and it is feared that new fighting will break out any moment in the rural zone near Florencia.

BETANCUR SAYS TALKS TO CONTINUE WITH GUERRILLAS

PA200226 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Riohacha, Guajira -- The government is not going to be benevolent with the rebel groups, President Belisario Betancur has said, referring to the Armed Forces' actions in Caqueta Department. However, he added that the dialogue with the guerrillas will continue in an effort to bring peace to the country and that John Agudelo Rios heads the Peace Commission that is working toward this goal. President Betancur was in Guajira Department today to attend events marking the 200th birthday of Jose Prudencio Padilla, Colombia's sea hero.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces Operational Command No 12 today continued its intensive land and air pursuit of the M-19 [19 April Movement] column that attacked the town of Florencia last Wednesday, leaving more than 30 people dead after a bloody clash with Army troops. Official spokesmen have confirmed to this station that violent clashes occurred today somewhere between the villages of Resina and Guadalupe, but they did not state the number of casualties.

In the meantime, the Armed Forces have reinforced their troops in order to continue the search operation that is trying to locate the M-19 column commanded by Gustavo Arias, alias Boris, which fled after attacking Florencia. Military sources have confirmed reports indicating that the M-19 column has been located and is virtually surrounded by the Armed Forces, but they have said nothing about casualties.

Meanwhile, the situation is tense for the residents of Florencia, and ground transportation is strictly controlled. The only vehicles allowed to leave are those transporting food to other departments.

ECONOMY MINISTER RODRIGUEZ PASTOR RESIGNS

PY192335 Paris AFP in Spanish 2321 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (AFP) -- It was officially reported this afternoon that Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor this morning resigned from his post. He was replaced by Mines and Energy Minister Jose Benavides.

INTERIOR MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON GENERAL STRIKE

PY191717 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[From the "Panorama" program: interview with Interior Minister Luis Percovich by (Enrique Cirilo Soto) -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [(Soto)] The right to strike presupposes the right not to work. But this right also presupposes another very important right. This is the right to work, something which is upheld by the Constitution. I wonder how the government will guarantee the right of those who do want to work to those who do not want to comply with the union leadership's orders?

[Percovich] Well, we must grant the necessary security, so that the transportation services run effectively.

[(Soto)] All this is very nice, but previous experience has shown otherwise. I am willing to accept that the government does indeed respect the right to strike, but when governments do not accept the holding of a strike, they have certain resources they can rely on. For example, there is the famous [name indistinct] case in France in which all railroad workers on strike were called into military service so that those who did not go to work had to deal with a military court. I believe that the government should respect the right to strike. But in view of previous experience, I do not think that the government offers proper guarantees for those who do not want to strike.

[Percovich] Yes, you are right. On previous similar occasions, we were unable to guarantee the security of individuals and transportation. In view of this, we will adopt strict measures and enforce additional measures to guarantee the security of these individuals. I want to reassert that we will adopt all the necessary security measures within the framework of the law.

[(Soto)] Would you agree with me in noting that this call for a general strike is not merely aimed at seeking political objectives, as my good friend the labor minister has noted, but in keeping with basic Marxist-Leninist doctrine, it is a subversive tool to take over power?

[Percovich] It is obvious that the planned strike is in keeping with political objectives, but there are otherulterior motives thatmust be condemned by all Peruvians since those unions promoting the strike want to create unrest and an uncertain atmosphere to undermine the prevailing democratic system.

[(Soto)] Now we are talking the same language. If, as you say, a general strike poses a serious threat to public order, why don't you suspend constitutional rights, considering that this measure is provided for in the Constitution?

[Percovich] We may suspend constitutional rights, but we do not believe it will be necessary. We may adopt this decision, but by doing so we will merely be postponing the strike by 15 days. What we want to show the people is that there are vast national sectors that will not comply with the strike call because they know that there are political objectives behind it and that the main objective is to undermine and weaken the democratic system.

[(Soto)] Your were talking in plural terms. But I would like to remind you that it is the interior minister who is responsible for public order and who decides whether to suspend constitutional rights. It is not the president's responsibility, it is yours.

[Percovich] Yes, you are right. It is the responsibility of the Interior Ministry to propose the suspension of constitutional rights, the enforcement of a state of emergency, and other special measures, but the final decision is made by the cabinet.

[(Soto)] Am I right in thinking that the government believes that it is going to get a good trade for not suspending constitutional rights?

[Percovich] I believe that a democratic system should not exaggerate the situation and enforce emergency measures if it believes that it can control the situation by relying on other normal resources.

[(Soto)] You are prejudging the issue. Has the situation ever been controlled without suspending constitutional rights?

[Percovich] If necessary, we may suspend constitutional rights and declare a state of emergency. But this will depend on the development of the situation. (?I do not) exclude this possibility.

STATE OF SIEGE LIFTED IN EMERGENCY AREA

PY191642 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The Emergency Area Political Command today lifted the state of siege and requested the people's cooperation in safeguarding and restoring peace in the area, particularly in Huamanga Province.

The following is the official communique issued this afternoon by the Political-Military Command:

The Political-Military Command of the Emergency Area informs the people of the following:

1. As of today, the state of siege is lifted in order to contribute to restoring public order to guaranteeing the normal development of activities of all citizens.

2. The Emergency Area Command requests all citizens to cooperate with the Armed Forces in their objective to restore order.

Ayacucho, 18 March 1984, Public Relations Office of Area E of the Emergency Area

EFE 'ECONOMIC CRISIS' WRAP-UP, 1983 STATISTICS

PY172315 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2049 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Lima, 16 Mar (EFE) -- Peru is experiencing a serious economic crisis and this is being reflected by the dramatic figures and economic indicators. All economic publications issued in Peru as well as the National Statistics Institute (INE) indicators point out the existence of a harsh recession and an increase in inflation and unemployment. INE statistics point out that during 1983 the GDP dropped by almost 12 percent while the government had estimated a 2-percent rise of the GDP.

Agricultural production decreased by 16.8 percent; fishing by 33.5 percent; mining by 6.6 percent; manufacturing production by 17.2 percent; construction by 21.4 percent; and trade over 16 percent. However, cattle production increased by 2.7 percent. The decrease in the construction sector caused a decrease in iron and cement production. Fishing for human consumption decreased by 15 percent. The decrease in agricultural production is attributed to environmental factors such as droughts and floods which have affected, and continue to affect, Peru over the past year. Oil production decreased by 12 percent, and unemployment affects 9 percent of an economically active population of 5.5 million.

The number of unemployed totals 463,000, the number of underemployed totals 2.8 million, and only 1,970,000 Peruvians are properly employed. While it is believed that economic stagnation will continue for 10 more years, there is a proliferation of street peddlers who in Lima alone total 300,000 and the so-called "informal economy" is becoming more and more consolidated.

In addition to all this, there is inflation. The year 1983 ended with an inflation rate of 125.5 percent, the highest in the history of Peru, and the calculated estimate for the cost of living in Lima for the first months of 1984 has risen 16.2 percent. Well-known economists note that the government-estimated inflation rate for 1984, which is 70 percent, will be surpassed because it is estimated that it will total from 35 to 45 percent by the first half of the year. This will cause a continuous deterioration of the purchasing power of Peruvians.

This situation has been a constant source of social tension and even violence. Strikes multiplied and 10 million man-hours were lost in stoppages in 1983. The four main Peruvian unions have called a 24-hour national stoppage for 22 March to protest the government's economic policy.

Peruvian exports also fell in 1983, and although primary exports increased by 25.4 percent, low international prices did not compensate for this increase. Nontraditional exports decreased by 27.3 percent in 1983 in comparison with those of 1982. Imports decreased by 28.7 percent in comparison with those of 1982. However, the commercial balance showed a surplus of $532.5 million at the end of 1983. But according to the monthly "Avance Economico," this indicator "should not be the cause of satisfaction, since it is due to the domestic recession and the decrease of the purchasing power of Peruvian consumers."

ARMED FORCES, POLITICIANS NEAR AGREEMENT

PY192056 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Well-informed sources have claimed that an agreement has almost been reached between the Armed Forces and the political parties on the questioned COSENA [National Security Council]. El Espectador, Radio Sport, and Cadena de Oro today at noon learned, despite the secrecy maintained by the two sectors, that the atmosphere prevailing between the Armed Forces and the political parties has changed and that an agreement on the COSENA has almost been reached. What is finally being sought is that this organization should operate as in other democracies, such as in the United States.

This is probably one of the main issues to be discussed at the meetings to be held this week when the generals meet separately. The Army might hold a meeting tomorrow or the next day. Also, the meeting of all the high-ranking officers of the joint staff to jointly evaluate the issue might be held next week. This morning the president of the nation met with the commanders of the three branches but, at El Prado Presidential Residence, as usual, we still have no official information on the meeting.

IMMINENT RELEASE OF FORMER GENERAL AWAITED

PY160040 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1342 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 15 Mar (TELAM) -- The house of Liber Seregni has been heavily guarded by police since this morning, after hundreds of persons who surrounded the house and cheered the Broad Front leader were disbanded late last night. Having served 8 years of the 14-year prison term imposed on him, there are persistent rumors about Seregni's imminent release. Using armored vehicles, the antiriot squad forced the demonstrators to remove their banners before dispersing the crowd. The banners, representing the Broad Front and other political forces, welcomed Seregni, suggesting that his release was imminent. Seregni's lawyer, Hugo Batalla, said he believed that the Supreme Military Tribunal would today make a decision on the Seregni case. He reiterated that all legal requirements for the release of Seregni have already been met.

A former Broad Front presidential candidate in the 1971 general elections, the last elections held in Uruguay, Liber Seregni was arrested on 9 July 1973 after participating in a demonstration against the coup that installed the military government 10 days earlier. He was released in 1974 and again arrested in 1976 after a series of dynamite attacks in Punta del Este. He was demoted from his rank of Army general and given a 14-year prison sentence.

Seregni Set Free

PY192124 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Montevideo, 19 Mar (EFE) -- Uruguayan General Liber Seregni left the Montevideo Central Police Prison this afternoon at 1740 (2040 GMT), after being set free on orders of the military court. Seregni, 68 years of age, has been under detention for 10 years accused of rebellion. A crowd cheered Gen Seregni when he left the central prison in a private car accompanied by his closest relatives. The automobile was preceded by another vehicle driven by his personal lawyer Hugo Batalla, who last week announced Seregni's imminent liberation. The military court has commuted his 14-year sentence imposed by a judge 6 years ago.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON C.A. ELECTIONS

PA190310 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 12 Mar 84 p D-1

[Article by Imperio Rodriguez]

[Excerpts] The electoral processes that will take place this year in three Central American countries have aroused the expectations of the international community. These processes have also focussed the Contadora Group's mission on closely following the electoral developments. However, peace in Central America depends on a large number of diverse circumstances, and it would be rash to predict that these elections will definitely achieve peace in Central America.

On this subject, Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul has stressed that the achievement of peace would require, in addition to the elections -- in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Panama this year; and in Guatemala in 1985 for a constituent assembly -- a stop to the arms race, respect for territorial integrity among neighboring countries, and a great effort to overcome the social injustices the Central American peoples suffer.

Contadora Is Alert to the Process in Nicaragua

We pointed out to Foreign Minister Morales Paul some political aspects of the elections the Sandinist government has announced for 4 November, the first to take place in Nicaragua since 19 July 1979, when the Sandinist revolution triumphed.

I think, Morales Paul said, that according to the points of view held by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela), contained especially in the 21-point Document of Objectives, one of the necessary requirements in the search for peace is the realization of free elections within a framework of liberty. The Contadora Group is alert to the development of this process and has the mission of following the development of events closely.

Everyone expects this process to be sufficiently open and fair to merit the support of the international community, and especially that of Latin America. Without becoming involved in Nicaragua's internal affairs, it is evident that all will depend on the openness and exactitude with which the proper fulfillment of the promises that have been made are carried out. We asked Morales Paul: If Nicaragua fulfills these guarantees, will peace in that country be equally guaranteed after the elections?

Peace in Central America, Morales Paul said, depends on circumstances of a diverse nature, which involve political, social, economic, and strategic aspects. This is why it would be rash to predict whether the realization of this event will be enough to guarantee peace since, because of the reasons mentioned, the process will be very complex.

Would a social vanguard government in Nicaragua have support? we asked. I believe so. However, the achievement of peace would require, in addition to the elections, an end to the arms race, respect for territorial integrity among neighboring countries, and a great effort to improve the living conditions of the Central American people, Morales Paul reiterated.

The Significance of Panama

Regarding the Panamanian elections on 6 May, the first to take place since 1968, we asked the foreign minister about the need for an autonomous government on the isthmus, one which will not yield to the pressures of the National Guard, which has been linked to consecutive presidential resignations in that country.

We asked Morales Paul: Panama is a member of the Contadora Group significant for the Contadora Group to have a truly democratic government in that country?

I am convinced that the electoral process in Panama will be carried out openly and fairly, and that the results will be respected within the regin, Morales Paul said. He stressed Panama's significance in the area because of its strategic and geographic importance: "All of this has an important meaning for the subregion."

Regarding the Salvadoran electoral process, we thought we could perceive some skepticism regarding the civil war and the political friction in that country, where elections alone would not contribute to the solution of problems. Morales Paul does not believe that with the realization of elections alone "a problem as complex as the Salvadoran problem will be overcome." However, he believes that they will constitute an important step in determining the political will of the Salvadoran people.

Regarding Guatemala, we insisted that there is a certain silence regarding the dictatorial regime, while all of the governments are demanding guarantees from the Sandinist government. Isn't it equally important that the Contadora Group countries declare themselves in favor of a democratic government in Guatemala? we asked. As with all of the countries in the area, Morales Paul replied, Guatemala is of decisive importance. One of the Contadora Group's political principles is the achievement of democratic governments throughout the continent, but the Contadora Group cannot impose this.

BRIEFS

PUBLIC DEBT FIGURES -- In his report to the National Congress, the comptroller disclosed that Venezuela's current foreign debt stands at 120.90 billion bolivares, while the internal debt stands at 45.40 billion bolivares, for a total of 166.30 billion bolivares of public debt. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 1 Mar 84 p 1-1 PA]

1983 HYDROCARBON EXPORTS -- The Venezuelan Ministry of Energy and Mines has reported that exports of crude oil, byproducts, and liquefied gas reached 537,450,000 barrels in 1983. This represents a decrease of 23,161,000 barrels, or 4 percent, from the previous year's figures. This is due mainly to fluctuations in the international oil market because of conservation measures adopted by the industrialized countries. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 27 Feb 84 p 2-9 PA]

SEPULVEDA VISITS FRANCE, FRG ON EUROPEAN TOUR

Reportage on French Visit

For reportage on the 2-day official visit to France by Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, including his 16 March meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 19 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Statement on Return

FL192020 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1538 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor returned to this capital yesterday and stated that he was very satisfied with the results of his trip to France and the FRG. When he was interviewed at the international airport, he stated that his visit to those two countries was very beneficial in that he learned the European viewpoint on the main world events as well as on bilateral relations with both nations.

Sepulveda Amor stated that learning about these viewpoints enriched the Mexican Government's outlook and his own on matters that most interest Mexico.

SEPULVEDA SENDS NEW OAS HEAD CONGRATULATORY NOTE

FL162019 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1820 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor has sent a congratulatory note to Ambassador Joao Clemente Baena Soares, secretary general of Brazil's Foreign Ministry, for his recent election as OAS secretary.

Sepulveda Amor expressed Mexico's firm support of Baena Soares' new office and added that in face of the economic crisis, a redefinition is urgently needed on cooperation mechanisms to meet the development needs of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. In his note the Mexican foreign secretary emphasized that, because of the present international situation, the OAS should be a forum for effective negotiations, as well as an instrument to preserve world peace. Sepulveda Amor concluded by stating that Baena Soares' selection should benefit the international community and strengthen the OAS.

U.S. DEPORTATION OF PSUM LEADER PROTESTED

PA192017 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 17 Mar 84 pp A-1, A-18

[By Antonio Gil]

[Text] Pablo Gomez, secretary general of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM], was deported by U.S. immigration authorities on the evening of Thursday, 15 March.

Gomez was heading for the Dominican Republic via Miami. After holding him incommunicado for 8 hours, the U.S. authorities sent him to Mexico aboard a Mexican airliner.

The written explanation that the U.S. immigration authorities offered the PSUM leader for deporting him simply said: "Pablo Gomez is a communist and represents a danger to the public interest." This is despite the fact that Gomez received a special visa from the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City.

The PSUM Central Committee has vigorously expressed its dissatisfaction with the way in which Gomez was treated, not only as a representative of a political party but as a Mexican citizen, since political parties are considered organizations of public interest in Mexico. "The illegal deportation of and the abuses suffered by Gomez constitute an attack on the PSUM, because Gomez is a party leader who asked for and obtained a visa to enter the United States."

Yesterday, the PSUM Central Committee secretary filed a formal protest at the U.S. Embassy. It will also demand that the Foreign Secretariat file a complaint with the U.S. Government for not abiding by its own agreements.

SOVIET DIPLOMAT COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

FL162343 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Soviet Union will continue to arm itself until a nuclear balance is achieved, which is why it will budget whatever funds are necessary for the arms race with the United States, Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostilav Sergeyev asserted today. Interviewed at this city's international airport, the diplomat lamented that the United States refuses to sign the treaty agreed to by the then heads of state Jimmy Carter and Leonid Brezhnev to reduce the nuclear arsenal.

He noted that the USSR lost 20 million people in the last world war, while Germany lost only 10 million. The United States does not yet know what it means to suffer such a loss in human lives in a world conflagration, he stressed.

Sergeyev indicated that the United States has deployed 572 Pershing II missiles in Western Europe, and that the USSR is deploying others in Warsaw Pact countries, such as Czechoslovakia, the GDR, and Yugoslavia, among others.

World peace cannot be attained if the United States refuses to ratify the agreement signed 5 years ago in Vienna, Austria, in which the two nations agreed to reduce nuclear arms, the Soviet diplomat asserted.

NEW CUBAN AMBASSADOR SAYS RELATIONS EXCELLENT

FL192050 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Upon his arrival in Mexico City, Dr Jose Augustin Fernandez de Cossio Rodriquez, the new Cuban ambassador to Mexico, stated that Mexican-Cuban bilateral relations are excellent but can be enlarged, especially in the economic field.

Fernandez de Cossio, who is replacing Fernando Lopez Muino as ambassador, stated that because of the historical roots shared by the two countries, they are linked by unbreakable bonds, which makes a greater exchange possible. The diplomat, who was received at the international airport by the Vietnamese, USSR, and GDR ambassadors, refused to make any statement on his work program until he presents his letter of credentials to President Miguel de la Madrid.

ILLUECA QUESTIONED ON U.S. TROOP DEPLOYMENTS

PA200313 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The tariff reduction on electricity will be discussed during the next cabinet council meeting. President Illueca said:

[Begin recording] The IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] is making the necessary arrangements. The Executive Branch wants this measure to be implemented as soon as possible. I hope that after our next cabinet meeting, which will be this Wednesday, I can make an announcement on the matter.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, international news agencies have been reporting that ships and troops have left Panama for Central America. What do you have to say about this?

[Illueca] I share your concern over this situation. If this is really taking place, the executive branch is unaware of it. I am going to ask for a report. I do appreciate your question. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES CONSTRUCTION OF U.S. BASE

PA181251 Panama City YA in Spanish 17 Mar 84 p 7

[Text] In view of the fact that some unfounded press reports have been disseminated by the country's communications media regarding alleged construction of a U.S. military base in the area of Mariato, Veraguas Province, the Foreign Ministry wishes to make the following clarification to the public:

1. It is totally untrue that U.S. Armed Forces are building a military base on Panamanian territory, more specifically, in the area of Mariato, Veraguas Province, which would violate provisions of the Panama Canal Treaties of 1977 and the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, whose letter and spirit we fully respect and ensure fulfillment on the part of the U.S. Government.

2. The real situation is that a request was made to the National Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama by the inhabitants of the communities of Mariato, Quebro, and Arenas in Montijo District, Veraguas Province, that a 57.5 km stretch of access road to those communities be built.

3. The civic action project is currently being carried out through the joint action of the Public Works Ministry, the National Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama, and an engineering group of the U.S. National Guard Reserves, in absolute compliance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

4. The communities of the region of Mariato, Quebro, and Arenas will benefit greatly from this road, and 500,000 hectares will be integrated into the national economy with the agriculture-livestock production and the coffee, rice, cacao, plantain, and other basic products which will have expeditious access to the country's markets.

Therefore, the Foreign Ministry reiterates to the public that no U.S. base is being built in Mariato or any other part of national territory. That would be contrary to the national government's policy of respect for sovereignty and strict fulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

Workers Party: 'Intervention'

PA170206 Panama City YA in Spanish 16 Mar 84 pp 2, 4

[Communique issued by the Panamanian Revolutionary Workers Party -- date not given]

[Text] Although the Panamanian Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Southern Command have issued communiques indicating that the army of occupation is carrying out a "civic action," our party considers it necessary to point out that:

1. Any action undertaken by the U.S. troops is suspicious, particularly at a time when the attacks on our sister countries of Central America, especially on Nicaragua, are taking shape as a definite trend, which has the support of the puppet governments of Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

This action by the U.S. Army can only be interpreted as an attempt to obtain the support of the Panamanian Government and the National Defense Forces for the escalating aggression against the people and Government of Nicaragua.

2. Meanwhile, actions taken by the National Defense Forces -- including the decoration of General Gustavo Alvarez, the key man in Honduras in the aggression against Nicaragua; the renewal of CONDECA, a tool for aggression; and the negotiation of the permanent presence of the School of the Americas -- are clear evidence of the dangerous path being trod by the National Defense Forces, in accordance with the plans of imperialism.

3. Even if they are only building a road, this is flagrant intervention in our country at the very moment of an electoral debate in which the forces of both the old and new oligarchies are struggling in the throes of their own crises.

In this case we condemn the covert implementation of counterinsurgency plans, disguised as "civic action," and we urge all the Panamanian popular forces to demand that the oppressive U.S. forces get out of our country.

WORKERS PARTY CONDEMNS U.S. ACTIONS IN C.A.

PA192206 Panama City YA in Spanish 19 Mar 84 p 16

["Public Opinion Trends" column: Communique entitled "No to Yankee Intervention in Latin America," issued by the Panamanian Revolutionary Workers Party in Panama City on 14 March]

[Text] As the national and international communities well know, the United States and its President Ronald Reagan are currently increasing their warmongering and militaristic campaign against our brothers the Nicaraguan people and their government. This campaign is primarily intended to undermine the process of social liberation that this courageous people and their leaders in the FSLN are developing. The international community and peoples of the world have observed that President Reagan asked the U.S. Congress for a substantial sum of money to support the antipopular and mercenary groups that comprise the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. President Reagan's aggressive attitude also supports the antipopular and repressive Salvadoran regime through force and material assistance, with the sole purpose of strengthening it in the face of the increasingly strong popular and revolutionary struggle that the Salvadoran people, led by the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR, and the FMLN, are carrying out in El Salvador.

Reagan's arrogant and imperialistic attitude radically contrasts with the peace efforts of the Sandinist government and people. The hypocritical policy of the United States has become evident. On one hand, it states that it agrees with the Contadora Group efforts, while on the other hand, it promotes and stimulates war in Central America.

The call for solidarity that the Nicaraguan Government has made to the nations of the world is justified because of the imminent possibility of war promoted by Ronald Reagan's administration.

Therefore, the Revolutionary Workers Party declares its solidarity with the Nicaraguan Government and urges the Panamanian people to remain alert. We condemn and reject the U.S. Government's warmongering policy, which is seeking to submerge Central America in bloodshed and terror.

We are confident that the Panamanian people support the people and the Government of Nicaragua. In the face of imperialist attacks, let there be unity among the Latin American peoples.

Yankee hands out of Central America and Panama!

Viva the liberation struggle of the Nicaraguan people and Government!

Viva the Salvadoran people's struggle for liberation!

PAREDES COMMENTS ON COUP RUMORS, ELECTIONS

PA191945 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by Wilfi Jimenez]

[Excerpts] According to General Ruben Dario Paredes, retired, "the Panamanian military men's current situation is dangerous and possibly even suicidal, because their commanders, owing to colossal personal ambitions, may be irresponsibly" leading over 15,000 men "who do not deserve this fate into a confrontation with the people."

According to Paredes, the country's two-headed government, led by the president and the commander, "who today is Noriega, but tomorrow may be someone else," should be discontinued.

He asserted that Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, whom he described as the "Tinajitas [Defense Forces garrison] candidate," guarantees the continuation of this two-headed government, because he is not strong enough to put the armed forces commanders precisely where they belong: in the garrisons, engaging in activities that the Constitution assigns them." He also said that this is why he rejects and fights "this continuism."

Paredes does not believe the persistent rumors of the last few days about a possible coup, because "the climate isn't appropriate for this." He added that as the election date approaches, "such a possibility becomes even less likely."

He believes that a coup would be "a grave imprudence that everyone, both the leaders and the people, might pay for dearly." Paredes therefore hopes that this mistake won't be made. According to him, this might "result in unrest, which would disrupt public order, and in street disturbances. Worse yet, disturbances might even take place among the very ranks of the armed forces."

Paredes stressed that "when an armed corps sees its commanders acting out of personal ambition and leading them into dangerous situations -- like confrontations with the people -- reactions of every sort can ensue, including unrest, rejection, insubordination, and sedition. All of this can happen when leaders lose their heads."

He asserted that "the opposition definitely will win the elections" and that no one can prevent that, because there might be an "immediate and violent reaction."

He admitted that "up to a point," there is a confrontation between Commanders Noriega and and Diaz Herrera and himself, though not of a personal nature, but rather on the subject of running the armed forces "as they see fit, in accordance with their own personal ambitions. This has become noticeable in recent months." And Paredes rejects this.

He added that the armed forces that he turned over to the present commanders "have changed greatly, dangerously, for the worse," and he expects that "the coup rumor will continue to be just that, a rumor, because it would be the last mistake that they, the commanders, would make."

Finally, commenting on the joint action between the Southern Command and the Panamanian military men, he said that "the bad thing was the way in which it was done, without a prior request for Foreign Ministry authorization." According to him, this is further evidence of Noriega's arrogance as the commander.

VICE PRESIDENT OZORES TO REMAIN ON CANAL BOARD

PA200337 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Vice President Carlos Ozores will continue as a member of the Panama Canal Commission. Vice President Ozores made these comments on his new duties:

[Begin recording] [Ozores] The vice president really does not have a specific job. He is just a close collaborator of the president of the Republic. His responsibilities are very flexible. I am willing to serve the president in those positions in which I can be of the best service to him.

[Unidentified reporter] Will you continue as a member of the Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors?

[Ozores] Yes. So far, I have not received orders to the contrary. No changes have been made. [end recording]

CANDIDATES TO BE GIVEN AIR TIME ON STATE RADIO

PA182234 Panama City YA in Spanish 17 Mar 84 pp 16, 2

[Report by Lisette Carrasco]

[Text] The political parties that have been legally registered and recognized by the Electoral Tribunal will together receive 30 minutes a day of broadcast time on Panama's Radio Nacional. The independent candidates whose nominations have been accepted by the Electoral Tribunal will together receive 60 minutes a day on the affiliate stations of Radio Nacional on Monday through Saturday, in rotating spots of 30 minutes each.

The Electoral Tribunal resolution indicates that the independent candidates in the provinces where there are no Radio Nacional affiliates will together share the right to a 30-minute time slot at the national level after the one granted to the parties.

Regarding the programming of the spots, Electoral Tribunal Resolution No 140 adds that the political parties and independent candidates will reach agreement with the Radio Nacional director on the time slot that best suits their interests based on their political campaign plans.

PDP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DISCUSSES ISSUES

PA162257 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0115 GMT 16 Mar 84

["Know Your Candidate" program with guest Dr Carlos del Cid, presidential candidate of the Panamanian People's Party, PdP; moderator Jorge Concepcion; and journalists Jose Franco, Migdalia Fuentes, Marijulia Puyol, and Emilio Sinclair]

[Excerpts] [Fuentes] The country views the division among the leftist groups with some concern. To what do you attribute this division? Is it due to the positions adopted by the leftist groups, or is it due simply to a strategy to gain more supporters for future political campaigns?

[Del Cid] The PdP has been attempting to reach agreements with various political forces, including all the Torrijist forces, the forces that follow the Torrijist ideas; the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], one of the parties that is a member of UNADE [National Democratic Union]; and the leftist parties.

We spoke with the leftist parties in an effort to come to an understanding, but it was not achieved because they are critical of the revolutionary process led by General Torrijos. They also are critical of the National Defense Forces, and the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, and they object to Torrijism in general. The PdP has raised the banner of Torrijism, condensed into five main points, which it has submitted to the UNADE and leftist parties. However, no agreement has been reached. This is not just strategy or a tactic to obtain more votes. Instead, what is being sought is agreement on the fundamental points for the country's development and the liberation and decolonization process. Since we have not coincided with the left on those points, unity cannot be achieved. However, we have made a sincere effort directed at achieving the country's advance under the Torrijist guidelines, which are so important for Panama at this time.

[Concepcion] If the PdP wins, what would Panama's foreign relations be like, specifically with the United States?

[Del Cid] Our program advocates the best possible relations with all countries of the world, irrespective of their system of government. We would have normal bilateral relations with the United States, but based on our concepts, based on Torrijist concepts. Torrijos taught us not to go to Washington to ask for guidelines and dictates so that the left and the PdP could carry out their policies. Gen Torrijos Herrera taught us to undertake an independent policy, one that coincides with our permanent policy of respecting the people's self-determination and independence.

[Franco] After a half century of activities, the PdP is participating independently in an electoral campaign. Isn't going alone to the elections in some way a vote against Torrijism?

[Del Cid] No. It is almost natural for political parties to participate alone in an election. This is clearly seen in Panama's political situation. There are several political parties that are going to the May and June elections independently. However, the people are aware that we have struggled and have made efforts to achieve the unity of all the Torrijist forces. But amid that struggle, unions have been established that delay and turn back Torrijism. Nevertheless, we have not broken with those political forces, nor will we. We know that in the future we are going to unite, because the Torrijist path has been clear in this country for years and has left us clear tasks. We are not the ones responsible for the fact that a Torrijist line currently has not been adopted. Other groups that say they are Torrijist will be the ones responsible.

[Franco] If the communists of the PdP reach power, what type of regime would you establish in Panama? Would it be a regime like that of Cuba or Nicaragua, or like the Allende regime in Chile, or a Panamanian-style regime?

[Del Cid] If the PdP reaches power, as we hope it will since we are not involved in politics just to play, we are involved in politics for real, if the people decide that we should be in power, we will have to govern the country. The type of government that emerges from the struggle of the PdP must be characterized by Panama's specific situation. Gen Torrijos rightly said that each country must find its own solutions. We could not adopt the Chilean or Cuban formula. We would take the positive aspects of the Cuban and Chilean experiences in order to develop our people. There are special characteristics here that would make us establish a regime that we term a progressive democracy within an atmosphere of national liberation. That is the basis of our current political struggle.

[Concepcion] The Central American crisis has worsened. Panama cannot escape what is occurring in the Central American region. What is your opinion?

[Del Cid] The PdP has a firm and resolute position on what is occurring in Central America. The PdP has always advocated the people's right to self-determination and independence. What is being decided in Central America is the liberation of the peoples or th r subjugation to the dictates of imperialism and the local oligarchies and big landowners. The PdP is struggling, defending, and fighting for the prompt liberation of the countries that are struggling and shedding their blood for liberation. The Panamanian people have expressed solidarity with the struggle of the Central American peoples. They will continue to do so and so will the PdP.

[Franco] At the international level, does the PdP follow the Soviet or Chinese communist line, or do you remain autonomous?

[Del Cid] The PdP respects the Soviet Union very much. The party sees in that country the best achievements of the socialist system. However, the PdP does not depend on the guidance of the Soviet Union. Instead, it is a party that respects the Soviet Union and admires it for its achievements. The people have definitely reached power there. The peasants, workers, and middle classes have realized their aspirations.

[Puyol] Can you specifically outline the basic points of your government program?

[Del Cid] We have more than a dozen basic points. Some of the important points include: guaranteeing democratic rights to all the popular, political, and social organizations; maintaining the policy of state participation in production and consolidation of the state enterprises; continuing and developing the policy of peasant settlements; maintaining state ownership of the land where the reverted property [from the United States in the Canal area] is located; ending the U.S. occupation of that part of the national territory that imperialism still usurps, and nationalizing the Canal, as the Torrijos-Carter Treaties establish; guaranteeing the demarcation and establishment of all Indian regions in accordance with their rights, customs, and culture; implementing deep popular and democratic changes in national education and protecting the authentic national culture; drafting laws on the protection of families and children under the democratic guidelines of popular liberation; maintaining a nonaligned foreign policy; maintaining peace in Central America and the neutrality of the canal; and maintaining the unity of the Defense Forces and the popular masses in the democratic task of national liberation.

COSTA RICA

CIVIL GUARD, RED CROSS RESPOND TO CONTRAS

PA17c303 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0140 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] La Cruz, Costa Rica, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Some 34 people have died in new fighting reported along the border, at a point near the town of Santa Cecilia, 20 km northeast of La Cruz, local sources have told ACAN-EFE. The sources agree with reports from the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) General Command on the attack against the post of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) at Santa Amalia, 33 km northwest of Cardenas. The fighting at Santa Amalia extended until dawn yesterday with various weapons (light and heavy), which killed 14 and wounded several members of the Nicaraguan Army. One member of the rebel forces was critically wounded, according to the sources.

ARDE spokesmen reported another clash with Sandinist forces at the mouth of Sabalo River, in which 20 people were killed and several were wounded, while the rebels mined the river, which flows into the San Juan River. In another armed action by ARDE forces near (Azucena), San Juan Sur Department, several peasants, mostly women and children, asked the rebels for protection so that they could travel to a safe place, and followed them into the mountain region.

Meanwhile, Colonel Oscar Vidal, the Costa Rican Civil Guard director, did not reject the possibility of clashes with anti-Sandinists crossing the border should they "resist arrest" by the Costa Rican police. Colonel Vidal bases his statement on orders issued by rebel Commander Eden Pastora, which were overheard by border guardsmen, to "resist, should they be surprised in Costa Rica." "We must be more careful," the director of the Civil Guard said, "in approaching and locating rebel groups in the area of operations along the Nicaraguan border."

Elsewhere, the Costa Rican Red Cross post at La Cruz, located on the demarcation line, reported having assisted a soldier with three bullet wounds caused by mortar shrapnel in the town of Santa Cecilia. The Red Cross delegate on the border told ACAN-EFE that they proceeded to that town in response to a request for help from an unidentified man to aid a wounded member under Pastora's command. The medical report identified the wounded man as Adolfo Secundino Perez, 25, who was transferred to the border by his companions, and was taken from there to the Liberia Hospital by ambulance. The report added that his condition was critical. The Costa Rican Red Cross announced having doubled the number of its members on the border since the fighting in the Nicaraguan southern sector is continuing.

ATLANTIC COAST TERMED 'SUBVERSIVE ENCLAVE'

PA160442 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] National security authorities have continued to direct attention to the country's Atlantic area because investigations show that the region has become a subversive enclave, controlled by national and international extreme-leftist leaders. According to our sources, places like Guacimo, Guapiles, some parts of Siquirres, Talamanca and La Estrella Valley are very dangerous. There is evidence that on some farms controlled by squatters with ties to extremist movements there are individuals who are well-trained in terrorist actions. There are even reports that known subversive leaders have introduced modern weapons onto these farms, including some heavy weapons, which makes the situation worse.

EL SALVADOR

PDC'S DUARTE PROMISES WORK ON ECONOMY, PEACE

PA191723 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Message by Christian Democratic Party, PDC, presidential candidate Jose Napoleon Duarte on the "Radio Meeting" program, sponsored by the PDC; no date or place given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] With just a few days left before the elections I want to bring to your attention the fact that you Salvadorans will be choosing your destiny, and whether or not you want peace. You will decide whether to return to the somber past, filled with danger, hatred, abuse of authority, and all other calamities that have led the nation to the current crisis affecting us all, such as that offered by ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], with death squads, threats, fear, terror, and murders -- or a future of hope through the changes this country needs to provide the best conditions for dignified life. It will be up to you on 25 March to decide what you want.

What do I offer you? What does Napoleon Duarte offer you? I offer to work for social programs and to confront the unemployment problem and the economic problems affecting the country. To do this, I have traveled the world to ask for help, and I have been promised the required capital to help us out of our economic crisis.

I promise you that if you give me your vote, I will be a president who will truly govern the country and confront economic problems and the problems of violence with determination. We must eliminate the death squads and punish corruption. We must stop the abuse of authority. We are going to work so that you may all feel secure that the country is advancing on the right track.

Besides, I offer to work for peace. Once we stop violence through effective controls against abuse of authority and the elimination of the death squads, we will create the social discipline that the country needs so badly, and the conditions for moral authority. The president of the Republic, the government, the state and the community all need the moral authority to tell the rebels that there is no need to kill people and destroy bridges because the country wants peace.

We are going to create an environment in which all sectors can express their opinions freely, so that the people can choose their positions and we can live in a democracy with political freedom for all sectors. Thus, all the sectors who believe in violence will realize that there is no reason for it, and will commit themselves to join the democratic process. That is how we are going to meet this situation. [applause]

I offer, dear friends, to work from the presidential palace to put an end to the state of corruption that has affected the nation so seriously. [applause] I am not going to put up with it because it has produced a serious affliction of social decomposition and the biggest crime ever committed against our people.

I am determined to work for all sectors. I have told the peasants who are willing to work that I will help them in every way possible in the agrarian reform process. I have told the urban and rural workers that we are going to strengthen the labor organizations so that they can defend their interests and attain better living conditions.

I have told the management sectors, the small, medium, and big businessmen, merchants, and farmers that we will revamp the economy so that together we can find the best solutions for the nation's economic, political, and social problems.

Dear friends, the time has come for you to enter that voting booth and, once you are inside, alone with God and your conscience, look for the color of hope, look for the green card of the Christian Democrats!

ARENA BROADCAST NAMES ALLEGED KILLER OF ROMERO

PA200213 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 19 Mar 84 pp 10, 45

[Text] Miguel Angel Blandino Nerio was accused of killing Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero in a video recording that was broadcast during a political program aired by the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA. The disclosure was made by one of the men who took part in the attack and who confessed that he served as "protection" for the assassin after he fired the fatal shot at the prelate. The individual who described the crime identified himself as Pedro Lovo, saying he was born on 11 November 1945 in San Salvador, studied at the Liceo Centroamericano Elementary School, and finished his secondary education at Santa Cecilia High School in Santa Tecla. He said that he later attended the National University, where he engaged in subversive activities, becoming acquainted with Schafick Handel and Cayetano Carpio, alias Commander Marcial. Lovo said that he later attended meetings at the university that were aimed at destabilizing the national economy.

He said that the biggest crime of his life was his participation in the assassination of Msgr Romero, adding that the murder had been ordered by the People's Liberation Forces, FPL, which included Carpio, Melida Anaya Montes, and a nun whom he identified as "Dominica," who worked in the Divine Providence Hospital, in whose chapel Msgr Romero's death occurred. Lovo later said that Dominica and other workers of the hospital and chapel took Msgr Romero to the polyclinic where he died. Lovo said that Dominica appeared in video cassettes filmed when Msgr Romero was being taken to the hospital and when the body was being attended there. He said that Dominica is working in a refugee camp in Honduras today.

Regarding Msgr Romero's assassin, he identified him as a sniper and a brother of Roger Blandino Nerio, who it was learned from another source was arraigned in another Salvadoran court for homicide and assault during a terrorist attack in the Centroamericana neighborhood. Lovo said that when he escaped following Msgr Romero's assassination, he sought refuge in the home of Margarita Gasteazoro, who lives in the Laico neighborhood. He also said that Dominica told them about Msgr Romero's death, and he said that the nun who took part in the assassination plot lived with Mario Aguinada Carranza, one of the current leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Front abroad.

FOREIGN MINISTER CALLS FOR TALKS WITH FMLN-FDR

FL151900 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0200 GMT 15 Mar 84

[By Efigenio Ibarra]

[Text] El Salvador, 14 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena has told NOTIMEX that the Contadora Group has the great merit of being a forum for the discussion and analysis of the perspective for finding peaceful solutions to regional conflicts.

He said that the existence of the Contadora Group in itself, and its creation is important and vital. It is a means and path for diplomatic discussions that obviously provide the possibility for entering into negotiations aimed at finding political resolutions, he noted, and added: Without Contadora, there could be no regional dialogue.

Chavez Mena said: The Central American situation is a very profound crisis and its problems are quite complex. To ignore this is to ignore reality. For this reason, I feel it is impossible to implement simple, halfway, quick solutions. Any attempt to solve this problem will take time and will require a maturing process.

The foreign minister stressed that democracy is the main foundation for achieving peace in Central America. Peace in Central America, he continued, depends on the existence of democracy in each of its countries and the search for resolutions to political differences. I don't believe, he said, that anyone would want to believe that a military solution is the only possible resolution to this crisis.

According to Chavez Mena, the Central American crisis is composed of two main factors: a structural cause and an immediate cause. The structural cause simultaneously involves two key factors which are a lack of political development in regard to democracy in the past 50 years -- a period which has included grave social and economic differences amid a very clear social conflict. [sentence as received; second factor not mentioned] The immediate cause, he added, is present in external factors: a very clear interference in Central American problems. The Salvadoran case specifically shows the existence of guerrilla groups promoted and supported from abroad. Therefore, the structural factors give rise to immediate problems placing them within the traditional East-West and North-South conflicts. In other words, the current crisis in Central America is the interaction of the North-South and East-West conflicts.

In view of this situation, the resolution of the Salvadoran crisis, Chavez Mena said, must be political and aimed at strengthening the country's democracy. A democracy becomes stronger within a process and is linked to the political development of a nation. To make democracy possible, however, we must make room for all of the political sectors in the country, he stressed, including the rebels. The foreign minister said that we must look for more effective instruments to incorporate these rebels into the democratic process so that they can participate in the political debate.

The Peace Commission created in the past to talk with them must be reorganized, expanded, and consolidated. If this cannot be achieved for these elections, then this goal must be sought until fully reached, the Salvadoran foreign minister noted. I am fully convinced of the need to incorporate the FDR-FMLN [into the democratic process] because, otherwise, the country will continue to bleed itself to death in a climate of violence so terrible and painful that we could not continue, he concluded.

GOVERNMENT, REBEL MILITARY ACTIVITY REPORTED

Campaign To Disrupt Elections

FL192200 Bridgetown CANA in English 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[By Bernard Debusmann]

[Text] El Triunfo, El Salvador, March 18 (CANA-REUTER) -- Left-wing guerrillas have launched a major campaign to disrupt next Sunday's presidential elections in El Salvador, combining a new military offensive with moves to keep voters out of the polling booths.

The campaign opened shortly after midnight on Saturday with a mortar and machine gun attack on the Army barracks in San Miguel, El Salvador's third-largest city, and simultaneous guerrilla strikes on Army positions in the provinces of Morazan and San Vicente. A few hours later, at dawn, guerrillas seized key junctions on the country's three main trunk roads, including the Pan American Highway just outside the dusty town of El Triunfo, about 35 kilometres (20 miles) west of San Miguel. By mid-morning, almost 1,000 travelers were waiting for guerrilla permission to pass. Scores of them told reporters the rebels had taken their identity cards, a document required for access to polling stations.

On the back of a blue pickup truck, a tape recorder blared out key passages of a radio broadcast in which rebel chief Joaquin Villalobos announced the beginning of a new offensive under the motto: "No to the Electoral Farce, Yes to the Popular War."

FMLN Claims Victory

PA191750 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Attention Salvadoran people: An operation staged by the dictatorship and imperialism in eastern El Salvador has been thwarted. To the south, in the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front in the San Augustin-Tres Calles area, the FMLN has dealt another blow to U.S. imperialism. It defeated the Ramon Belloso Battalion that was trained in the United States. It dealt a crushing blow to the Belloso Battalion, the Gringo battaion, the Coca-Cola battalion, as this unpatriotic battalion is often called. Attention: The FMLN inflicted 15 casualties on the Gringo battalion and the Belloso Battalion during a clash in the San Agustin-Tres Calles area. It also seized three M-16 rifles and two PRG-77 military radio sets.

FMLN: Clash on Coastal Highway

PA191740 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] We have previously reported that, in addition to entering and occupying cities and neighborhoods in (?San Miguel) and simultaneously staging an artillery attack on the 3d Infantry Brigade headquarters, the FMLN units have extended their operations to the, Coastal Pan-American, and Armed Forces Highways. We now have a last minute report on the clashes on the Coastal Highway. FMLN units clashed with the dictatorship's cavalry troops and have inflicted three casualties on them. We repeat; the cavalry troops have suffered three casualties in clashes on the Coastal Highway. The FMLN is fighting in various parts in the country. Meanwhile, strikes involving 25,000 workers are taking place. This is the Salvadoran people's response to the electoral farce, and their reply to U.S. intervention, for the two things are one and the same.

FMLN Sabotages Electric Power

PA191728 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Attention, our militia, our armed people have sent us a report on the sabotage of electric power from San Vicente Department. FMLN militia blew up power pylons in the area between the San Felipe and El Sitio cantons, San Vicente Department. Our militia is sabotaging electirc power. Our militia is supporting the peoples' fight against the electoral farce and the imperialist intervention that are one and the same thing.

COPREFA: 31 Guerrillas Killed

PA192319 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, date and place not given]

[Text] Some 31 FMLN terrorists were killed by the Salvadoran Army in several parts of the country over the weekend. Members of the rapid deployment Ramon Belloso Battalion surprised extremist comumns near the San Antonio Potrerillos canton, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, killing 20 terrorists in the ensuing clash. The Army suffered two dead and two slightly wounded. In another area, units from the Cuscatlan Battalion clashed with guerrillas near San Luis de la Reina, north of the eastern Department of San Miguel, resulting in 11 terrorists killed and an indeterminate number of wounded. The Army sustained no casualties on this occasion.

Pan-American Highway Blocked

PA192343 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] There is no traffic on the Pan-American Highway. Several civilian sources, including the Land Transportation Office, today told YSAX that the movement of vehicles on the Pan-American Highway has been virtually suspended. The office that controls bus service to the eastern part of the country reported that bus service had been suspended from San Salvador to the eastern region and vice versa as of today. FMLN rebels announced last week on their clandestine radio station Radio Venceremos that as of today they would not be responsible for what might happen to public transportation vehicles on the Pan-American and littoral highways. Reports from the eastern city of San Miguel, the country's third most important city, indicate that the bus terminal there was filled this morning with people who wanted to travel to San Salvador.

FMLN ADDRESSES U.S. SOLDIERS 'NEXT TO BORDER'

PA190329 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 19 Mar 84

["Message from the Salvadoran people to the soldiers of the 82d Airborne Division of the U.S. Marines"; broadcast in Spanish and English, processed from the English; dated "El Salvador, March 1984"]

[Text] This is a message from the Salvadoran people to the soldiers of the 82d Airborne Division of the U.S. Marines [as heard] who are at this moment stationed in Honduran territory next to the border of our country, El Salvador. U. S. soldiers [passage indistinct].

[Words indistinct] lies and the ambition of a small group of wealthy families representing the Salvadoran obligarchy who have been and continue to be insensitive to the cries of the majority of our people [passage indistinct].

[Words indistinct] by way of maintaining in power a dictatorial regime that protects their interests. To date, the so-called social and agrarian reforms and the calls for respect for human rights have not created any significant change in the lives of our people. In the last 4 years, this regime with its Army and death squads has taken the lives of over 50,000 Salvadorans. In order to legalize this democracy of the cemeteries, another farcical election has been [word indistinct] which is why you have been (?brought) to our border.

Reagan's foreign policy in El Salvador is based on a completely false argument. He would have the U.S. public believe that we represent a threat to U.S. national security. By using this argument, the government of Ronald Reagan is creating a war situation throughout Central America. We, the people of El Salvador, have never once proposed a form of government that would threaten the security and sovereignty of our neighboring countries. Our fight is against the exploitation of the oligarchy and its puppet regime. Under no pretext will we tolerate the presence of U.S. troops in our country whose sole purpose is to sustain this unjust system. This aggressive presence, that is, your presence, will also be fought with firmness and decision.

We are a poor people, but we have had to learn how to fight for our rights. In the last 3 years of combat against this regime's Army we have caused 15,000 dead and wounded and have taken more than 2,000 prisoners of war. If you intend to step on our sovereignty by supporting this government of exploitation and oppression, you will pay a similar price. We would not like to see you spill your blood in a foreign land, but if you come here you will be treated as aggressors, as allies of the enemies of our people, and you will face in combat all the people of El Salvador, both in the cities and the countryside, and once again American youths will pay the price [words indistinct].

Soldiers of the 82d Airborne Division of the U.S. Marines, we want to tell you: We do not want to fight a war with you, but if you invade our country we will aim at your heart, and we will fight you until every last one of you has been expelled from our country. You will not achieve a victory over the Salvadoran Army, and your blood will have run uselessly on the Salvadoran land.

El Salvador, March 1984

VENCEREMOS CONDEMNS NEW U.S. AID APPROPRIATION

PA171811 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has approved $93 million more in military aid for the Salvadoran dictatorship. Despite heavy opposition in the U.S. Congress to the allocation of this $93 million, this sum is added to the more than $400 million that imperialism has already spent in 4 years of war against the FMLN without being able to stop its sure advance to popular victory.

Since open war was declared imperialism has had to increase 40-fold its economic and military aid to maintain the Salvadoran dictatorship. The reports presented to the U.S. Congress show the high level of corruption of Salvadoran Army generals, colonels, and other officers and high-ranking government officials. The prestigious newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST has said that President Alvaro Magana is one of those involved in the corruption. The theft by these officers and officials consumes a large part of the millions sent by Reagan, who has to continue sending more aid.

The reconnaissance flights, the direct management of the war by U.S. advisers, and the urgency of the increased military aid show that despite all imperialism's efforts and expenditures, the dictatorship's Army has already been defeated and is incapable of confronting the FMLN revolutionary army. Ronald Reagan knows that imperialist aid is the only thing that has kept the Salvadoran dictatorship alive.

That is why, in an immoral maneuver to make sure that the $93 million in aid would be sent to El Salvador -- an aid that was greatly opposed by Congress -- he made aid to the hungry, drought-striken African countries conditional on the granting of military aid to the genocidal Salvadorans and the Somozists, to whom he granted $21 million to continue their CIA-directed terrorist actions against the Nicaraguan Government and people.

But Reagan's immoral millions will not be enough to stop the advance of the Salvadoran people and their revolutionary army. The $93 million will allow the colonels, generals, deputies, and officials to continue to steal and to increase the corruption. Reagan's dollars will allow imperialism to become ever more the owner of Salvadoran sovereignty and to control the top decisions and strategic military and economic plans. The imperialist millions will allow the Gringos to control the election and its results, but they will never succeed -- as they have not so far -- in stopping the victory of the FMLN.

VENCEREMOS CHARGES U.S., HONDURAN AID IN ATTACKS

PA161623 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] (?We recall) that, to implement their operation in the northeastern area, the dictatorship and imperialism first massed Honduran Army battalions in Colomoncagua, (Huniguara), and other points on the border with El Salvador, north of San Miguel, Morazan, and La Union Departments. In addition, the U.S. Air Force carried out 137 espionage flights with reconnaissance planes from the Panama Canal to prepare, on behalf of the dictatorship, this operation which the Salvadoran people are now frustrating.

Simultaneously, Reagan's interventionist government concentrated planes and warships in the area and announced the participation of troops of the North American Army on Honduran soil for the alleged purpose of covering the elections scheduled for 25 March in El Salvador. This is one more step in the escalation of intervention by Reagan, who is bent on intervening in our fatherland to rescue the dictatorship's forces from their current plight.

In facing up to this operation in northeastern El Salvador, in wearing down, disrupting, and frustrating these movements, the Salvadoran people are demonstrating a real determination to defend their dignity and national sovereignty, inch by inch. El Salvador is winning! El Salvador will win!

FMLN COMMANDER ON U.S., HONDURAN 'INTERVENTION'

PA181423 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Interview with Commander Federico of the FMLN, by correspondent Luis Beltran, in San Luis de la Reina, in the northern region of San Miguel Department; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Beltran] Listeners of YSKL, we will continue with the second and final part of the country's eastern region, especially along the Honduran border, where Salvadoran Army units are staging a counterinsurgency operation to find and destroy FMLN guerrilla camps. One of the townships that has been persistently occupied by the leftists is San Luis de la Reina, where we arrived with due authorization along the neighboring military roads of the Salvadoran Army, which has immediate control of these points.

In the country's eastern region and here in San Luis de la Reina we found a large FMLN group led by a man known as Commander Federico. Commander Federico, we would like to know what proof you have to substantiate repeated claims that the Honduran Army has penetrated our border and, supported by U.S. military units, is participating in these counterinsurgency actions along the border.

[Commander Federico] As I told you, the entire population has been able to see the flights. We do not have sophisticated detection apparatus, but in this case we can plainly see them. Furthermore, at an international level, the U.S. radio station, the Voice of America, has stated clearly that there have been reconnaissance flights from Honduras to El Salvador. In other words, proof is not needed when press reports provide the details that permit such affirmations.

[Beltran] Commander Federico, transmissions of Radio Venceremos and Radio Farabundo Marti have said that the U.S. Army will intervene in support of the Honduran Army in what is known as the "Big Pine III" and "Grenadier" maneuvers announced for the coming months. In view of this and the thrust of the Salvadoran Army in these northern regions of the departments of La Union, Morazan, and San Miguel, do you think the rebel movement that you head in the FMLN will be seriously debilitated or virtually annihilated?

[Commander Federico] I think that those are mere suppositions. Debilitating us through flights would be very difficult, especially if we consider that the FMLN is supported at all times by all the people. You are in a controlled region, and you can see that it is not deserted; the people are here with us. What we can say categorically is that imperialism, by using the Honduran Army and trying to render support not only with the Honduran Army but with their own soldiers, is demonstrating that the Salvadoran Army is in a weak, critical position. Why else would imperialism be giving them such massive support as it is now doing, deploying Honduran and even U.S. soldiers? We might say that at this moment intervention has assumed characteristics of increasing proportions. Before it resorted to the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, and now it is using its own Army. Therefore, we cannot say that this implies a weakening of the FMLN. On the contrary, the FMLN has grown stronger, and this is imperialism's response.

[Beltran] It has been said at the international level that the FMLN will not boycott the 25 March presidential elections, but we understand that before, during, and after the elections you will continue to stage actions in El Salvador. What is your opinion on this?

[Commander Federico] Radio Venceremos has already explained this; the elections are just part of a farce being maintained to support the government with the millions being sent by Reagan. From that viewpoint, there is no reason for the FMLN to halt its actions. That has been explained previously.

FMLN WARNS AGAINST FORCING PEOPLE TO VOTE

PA200322 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] Attention, attention, your attention. We ask municipal mayors, supervisors of public offices, and business and company owners to abstain from intimidating, coercing, or threatening to lay off fine citizens, workers, or employees in order to force them to vote. We also urge them to abstain from taking action against anyone who does not vote on 25 March. We have been informed that in many township work centers the people are being threatened unless they vote.

The FMLN will take measures and reprisals against the municipal mayors, business and company owners, and supervisors of public offices who exert any kind of pressure on the people to vote on 25 March.

We ask the people, the workers, to inform the FMLN of individuals who make such threats or exert such pressure. The FMLN will take drastic measures and reprisals against these individuals.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT REJECTS UN HUMAN RIGHTS CHARGES

PA161520 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The Guatemalan Government has rejected a resolution on Guatemala proposed by the UN human Rights Commission because instead of promoting and safeguarding human rights, ensuring that they are respected, the resolution is completely political and discriminatory. The resolution also mentions issues exclusively under Guatemalan control, which violates the principle of nonintervention in Guatemalan domestic affairs.

In addition, the resolution is not in agreement with the report submitted by the special spokesman who has visited Guatemala twice and has confirmed the actual human rights situation here.

For example, according to Paragraph 6 there is reliable information that atrocities. have been committed in Guatemala that contradict all basic human rights principles.

It is evident that the information referred to in this paragraph was supplied by sectarian, committed, partial organizations. Thus, the information is neither objective nor credible. These organizations have unleashed a distasteful and unjust misinformation campaign abroad against the Guatemalan Government.

The resolution is not only vague, it contains lies. It has been reported that information in one paragraph is from no specific source. There is also misinformation about the Guatemalan Government's actions concerning rural and Indian residents, because at no time have they been moved by force. As far as the civilian self-defense patrols are concerned, they are formed from residents of the country's flatlands in order to defend themselves from the subversive activities that constantly confront them.

The government bulletin adds: Furthermore, the resolution mentions matters exclusively under the control of the Guatemalan Government, which has repeatedly expressed its desire to provide a free, pluralistic, participatory election process for the country, so that the people's will, as expressed in their votes, will be fully respected.

The government has stressed that the Human Rights Commission persists in adopting resolutions for political reasons. It is evident that the commission is beyond its expertise, which is to foster respect for human rights and basic liberties in all nations.

Finally, the government information bulletin says that the Guatemalan Government has reiterated its willingness to cooperate in all ways possible with the commission's special spokesman so that he may accomplish his tasks should his mission be extended, as has been considered in the bill to be introduced today to the commission for discussion.

ARMY SAYS DOCUMENT REVEALS URNG TERRORISM PLAN

PA162009 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The Army today said that it had uncovered a plan outlining terrorist attacks by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], which is made up of the four major leftist clandestine organizations in the country: EGP [Poor People's Guerrilla Army], ORPA [Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms], PGT [Guatemalan Labor Party], and the FAR [Rebel Armed Forces]. A military spokesman said that the plan was discovered through a confiscated document containing all the details. This plan was named the "31 January Martyrs Operation."

Colonel Edgar Djalma Dominguez, the Army public relations chief, noted the clandestine groups implicated in the plan, which proposed the assassination of political leaders, ranking military officers, clergymen, university students, labor leaders, and newsmen. Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores commented on the terrorist plan today, saying that the government is in a position to protect all those who feel that their lives are in danger, such as Father Juan Carlos Cordoba. [Begin Mejia recording] We will protect anyone who feels threatened and seeks our protection. This is only natural. [end recording]

Murder, Kidnapping Plotted

PA162205 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Guatemala, 14 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Army today disclosed that the Guatemalan guerrillas were planning to carry out "important" military attacks in the next few months, including assassinations of members of the military, politicians, clergymen, and businessmen. Colonel Edgar Djalma Dominguez, Army press chief, today showed newsmen documents that were confiscated from the guerrillas over the past few months, which contain the details of the plans.

In one of the documents, entitled "Operation Companeros Martyrs of 31 January," the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) outlines all of the details of the planned operations. The URNG consists of the four guerrilla organizations that are active in Guatemala. The URNG had assigned the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA) the task of "executing" newsman Jorge Carpio Nicolle, high-level leader of the political party called the Union of the National Center, (UCN). According to the document, Carpio Nicolle would be murdered before Holy Week when leaving a party, the location of which was not specified.

The Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) were scheduled to kidnap Father Juan Carlos Cordoba, the spokesman of the curia, because of his "wavering and inconsistent stands," and to demand from the government on behalf of a human rights organization a list of "all companeros who have been kidnapped, who are missing, or who were murdered by the dictatorship."

According to the confiscated documents, members of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) were to have carried out sabotage operations in southern Guatemala during the next few weeks to destroy the two largest sugar mills in the region and other large farms.

Finally, the document says that the Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT), a communist party, was planning to murder several members of the military, but it did not specify any names.

The PGT said that "in meting out justice to the men in uniform" they would follow the same procedures as used in "Operation Cocoliso," referring to the murder of General Cancinos in 1980, "for which no one claimed responsibility" in order to "cause confusion in the highest echelons of the military."

The document adds: "Whenever possible, profitable targets such as labor leaders, students, and newsmen should be sought, particularly those who systematically attack the dictatorship, in order to finish tearing the Army to shreds, given the crisis that it is already experiencing on all fronts." Col Djalma said that "this important document" was confiscated last week in an ORPA stronghold discovered in a place known as Tierra Nueva, on the outskirts of the capital. Five women were arrested in the operation. Col Djalma said that a few months ago, ORPA had 3 squads of fighters operating in the city, but that the Army has already "finished off 2 of them, consisting of 16 people."

POLICE RAID HOUSE, FREE KIDNAPPED BUSINESSMAN

PA161845 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Police today freed businessman Jose Clemente Barrios Barahona, general manager of the Casa Barrios supermarket, who was being held by members of the ultra-leftist, clandestine organization Rebel Armed Forces, FAR. Barrios Barahona was in good physical condition. Barrios was rescued this afternoon following an assault by the security forces on the house where he was being held in the Monteverde neighborhood of Guatemala City. He had been kidnapped on 15 December 1983.

When searching the house where Barrios had been held, police found a large cache of weapons of various caliber, ammunition, bombs, [word indistinct], police badges, machine guns, flares, and a considerable amount of Marxist literature, leading them to believe that other kidnapped persons had been held captive there.

ANTICOMMUNIST UNIFICATION PARTY REGISTERED

PA181902 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Lionel Sisniega Otero has formally registered his political party. He delayed appearing at the National Population Registry for 3 days in order to make his party's registration coincide with his birthday. The leader of the Anticommunist Unification Party, PUA, yesterday appeared at the National Population Registry with many of his followers and was officially notified that his party had been registered.

HONDURAS

COMBINED MANEUVERS BEGIN WITH U.S. FORCES

PA191830 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Official bulletin issued by the Honduran Armed Forces in Tegucigalpa on 18 March]

[Text] The Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Army today began limited deployment exercises involving special forces from both countries.

Units from the 3d Special Forces Battalion and the 7th Airborne Special Forces Group from Fort Gulick in Panama will carry out rapid readiness and deployment exercises with Honduran troops to determine their ability to maneuver and to operate under realistic conditions and on short notice. The exercises are being held 40 km north of Tegucigalpa. Members of the U.S. Special Forces will be dropped into a landing zone by U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft to make contact with Honduran ground troops.

The exercises will include tactical communications, survival training, and medical care actions by the special allied forces on a domestic defense mission, in close cooperation with civilian and military elements from the host nation. The rapid readiness and deployment exercises are scheduled to end on 29 March, after which the U.S. Special Forces will return to their base in Panama.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS TO COLOMBIA ON BORDER CLAIM

PA200407 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Mar 84 p 5

[Foreign Secretariat Press Communique No 44, issued in Tegucigalpa on 16 March]

[Text] The Foreign Secretariat advises the public that on Friday, 9 March, Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica sent a note to Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, in which the Honduran Government strongly and formally protested to the Colombian Government the visit which, according to international news dispatches, had been made to the Serranilla Cays by a Colombian Navy vessel carrying President Belisario Betancur, who said that he found himself in the northernmost part of his country. The Serranilla Cays are on the Honduran continental shelf, at 14 degrees, 59 minutes and 8 seconds north latitude, and Honduras has exercised and continues to exercise sovereignty over these cays on historic, geographic, and legal bases.

In the note our country recalled that in the Honduran proposal to internationalize peace in Central America, which was presented to the OAS Permanent Council on 23 March 1982, the importance of maintaining respect for the delimited borders and the traditional jurisdictional lines between the states was stressed as a contribution from all the countries of the area toward creating a climate of stability and regional harmony.

The Honduran Government reiterates to the Colombian Government that the frank and cordial friendship that has traditionally characterized the relations between the two countries must be maintained. The different viewpoints on this matter can continue to be addressed in an adequate manner through diplomatic channels.

'HEAVILY ARMED PEOPLE' ABDUCT LOTTERY OFFICIAL

PA191909 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Gustavo Morales, deputy director of the National Lottery, was abducted yesterday by six heavily armed people who fired on him before he was captured. Mrs Rina Morales has said that her husband is not a criminal and has held the Department of National Investigation [DIN] responsible for the abduction. This is what Mrs Morales said:

[Begin Mrs Morales recording] I wish to announce to the Honduran Government, Armed Forces, and people that at 0920 today, 18 March 1984, my husband, Gustavo Morales, was arrested by DIN officials while en route to television Channel 5 to participate in yesterday's lottery. My husband is the deputy director of the National Lottery. He was arrested by six heavily armed people and forced into a blue pickup truck that had no license plates. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA: 'U.S.-ORGANIZED' CONTRAS ATTACK BORDERS

PA192252 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has asserted that the counterrevolution's current military attacks are occurring along our country's northern and southern borders. In comments to the news media at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport, Ortega also said that Nicaragua has received much support for the call issued to the peoples and governments of the world, which demanded that the U.S. Government withdraw its troops from Central America and immediately stop its attacks on the Nicaraguan people. The "Sandinist Drumbeat" presents Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega's comments:

[Begin recording -- in progress] [Ortega] ...which continue their aggressive acts in the border zone, and this is well known. They are maintaining their aggressive attitude and attacks; there are daily clashes in the areas bordering Honduras and Costa Rica. As you are well aware, the attacks originate in Honduras and Costa Rica, and U.S. - organized counterrevolutionary bands operate from these two countries.

It is appropriate to mention that children have increasingly become the main victims of this criminal policy. Children are being killed in the Honduran and Costa Rican border regions.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] Salvadoran elections on 25 March?

[Ortega] To tell you the truth, no one harbors any hopes that the Salvadoran elections will solve the problems that prevail in that country.

[Reporter] Commander, what has been the reaction to the Nicaraguan Government's call?

[Ortega] Perhaps you have read the cables, which came from throughout the world. Governments, political parties, and so forth from all over the world have expressed solidarity with us. They all reject the attacks against Nicaragua and demand that the U.S. Government seek a political solution to the problems that prevail in the region. [end recording]

OFFICIAL CITES DANGER OF U.S. 'INVASION'

NC191351 Paris AFP in English 1342 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Paris, March 19 (AFP) -- The danger of an American invasion of Nicaragua has never been greater since the Sandinista regime came to power, a member of the Nicaraguan Government told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here today.

Magda Enriquez, who has been promoting the Nicaraguan point of view on a two month tour of the United States and Europe, said the Reagan administration and U.S.-backed guerrillas might be tempted to step up their plan to invade Nicaragua because of the November elections in both countries.

She said it would be more difficult to justify an intervention after the Nicaraguan elections, and the counterrevolutionaries were well aware that if there was a change of government in the United States, they might lose their financial backing and support overnight. Mrs Enriquez said some congressmen and senators, both Republicans and Democrats, believed President Ronald Reagan needed a military victory to assure victory at the poll.

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR TALKS IN SOVIET UNION

PA191852 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Communique issued by the General Information Directorate of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 19 March, place not given]

[Text] A delegation led by Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz, member of the FSLN National Directorate and planning minister; Julio Lopez, member of the Sandinist Assembly and director of the FSLN International Relations Department; Roberto Gutierrez, deputy minister of Agricultural and Livestock Development; and Daniel Fajardo, deputy industry minister, is leaving today, Monday, for the Soviet Union. This delegation will be joined by Jacinto Suarez, Nicaragua's ambassador to the Soviet Union. The purpose of the mission is to discuss the grave situation being experienced by the Central American region, as well as the multifaceted lines of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Nicaragua.

EX-MINISTER GODOY ON RESIGNATION, PLI PLANS

PA171246 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Mar 84

["Director Line" phone-in program, with guest Dr Virgilio Godoy Reyes, president of the Independent Liberal Party, PLI, and former labor minister; with moderator Jesus "Chuno" Blandon; LA PRENSA journalist Juan Velasquez; Radio Corporacion reporters Julio Armas, Roger Leon, and Pedro Valdivia; Radio Noticias reporter Alan Teffel; Radio Mundia reporter Joaquin Absalon Pastora; Radio Reloj reporter Francisco Rodriguez Tellez; and other foreign journalists -- live]

[Excerpts] [Blandon] We will first offer Radio Sandino's microphones to Dr Virgilio Godoy, so that he may greet the Nicaraguan people.

[Godoy] Thank you, Chuno. I am really happy to be here once more and to talk, even if by phone, with your listeners. Of course, I am also happy to talk with the companeros who are here tonight. I have always talked with the Nicaraguan people, especially in my activities as a government official. I am now prepared to face Radio Sandino's Big Guns and all the questions of those who decide to participate in this program.

[Blandon] Well, Doctor, today's front page news is your resignation as labor minister. Surely the listeners are waiting to hear you talk about this.

[Godoy] The news media today reported my decision -- my irrevocable decision -- to resign from my public post. Naturally, many questions will arise regarding my decision, but the answer is simple and less spectacular than expected. First, I am convinced that public officials do not own their posts and from time to time it is healthy to renew them. Government positions, by their very nature, are -- and must be -- temporary. Also, we have reached a crossroads -- we use this word many times to explain things and frequently end up explaining nothing -- and the immediate future has many activities in store for us. It is necessary to prepare for them conscientiously so that we may face them responsibly. Politically speaking, the PLI has decided to participate in the upcoming electoral campaign. Under these conditions, it is not possible to continue dividing my time between the PLI and my government duties. Therefore, my decision was easy; the party won in this case.

[Teffel] Doctor, when you began your statement you said you would speak seriously, and we believe you because you have been a serious man. We will now discuss politics, Doctor. Your party was part of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, and it is said that you left the FPR because the FSLN -- as a party -- told you it preferred to participate alone. Later, the alliance was organized again, without your party, with the Popular Social Christian Party and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party. Suddenly you appear as an opposition party. This was stated by Dr Orlando Quinonez; this is how I -- and many other people -- understand it, because today you resigned from your post. I would like for you to explain this situation: First, your status as an opposition party is questioned by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board because you have continued to participate in the debate on the electoral law. Second, it is also being said that you will join the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board. What truth is there to this?

[Godoy] Yes, Allan. There has probably been no time for a thorough discussion to clarify many of the things which are now being questioned. However, if you examine them objectively, they should not be questioned. First of all, it was the PLI that said at the beginning that the FPR was not an electoral alliance. We joined it because we considered the FPR an instrument to promote the three great principles which inspire this revolution: political pluralism, mixed economy, and international nonalignment. Time passed, and we failed to achieve any progress in those three principles, although there is some kind of political pluralism in the country.

When we said that the FPR was not an electoral alliance, this did not imply that elections would not alter its constitution. Evidently, if we are going to have elections in Nicaragua, we could not -- and cannot -- continue within the FPR's current structures. During these elections, every political party will have to prove itself and its capacity to influence -- not theoretically but realistically -- our country's political, economic, and social life. Therefore, when the FSLN announced its decision to participate alone, the FPR became weak; the FPR was already weak, but it then became even weaker. Our party decided that we would not be the ones to carry a sterile cross along a road leading nowhere. That is why the PLI decided to leave the FPR.

The rumor that the PLI will join the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board is refuted by a resolution adopted in our national assembly 3 weeks ago. We said that we would participate alone, and we believe that we have something to offer -- a third way to offer -- and we do. We do not look down on any group, but we want to measure our capacity to influence the course of events in the country, to know our strength, where we are, our specific weight, and what our role will be as of 1985.

[Javier Reyes] I think that Dr Godoy's resignation places the PLI at an advantage in relation to other parties, because they now have a government official who has been described by all of you as efficiently working for the party in the upcoming elections. How do you see the immediate future, after the approval of the electoral law, and with the imminent organization of the Supreme Electoral Council? What steps will your party take to prepare for the elections? What will you do now that you have resigned your post and are transferring your activities to the party's leadership? You also spoke about a third alternative and said your party will become that third alternative. Since some politicians said the same thing some years ago, and they are now part of the counterrevolution, would you please clarify whether the third alternative you mention is similar to the one mentioned by the counterrevolutionary leaders?

[Godoy] With pleasure, Javier. I will begin with the last of your questions. That would be like asking the FSLN if theirs is the Soviet model of such and such country. This is not the case; if someone says something, and then someone else says something along the same line, it is automatically taken for what the other said in the beginning. We are talking about a third alternative, independently from what others may have said. I suppose that when Marxists talk they cannot be identified with the Soviet Marxists or the Chinese Marxists, because they are totally different.

As I said at the beginning, there was not enough time to share between a ministry and our political organization; therefore, the party won. The third alternative also represents our goal of seeking the national unity. If this comes about, internal conflicts -- or whatever name you wish to give them -- will be solved. Our other goal is the search for peace, which is intimately linked to the first goal but also to our country's international problems. This peace can be sought, as I have tried, from a public post or through other roads and procedures -- and they can be equally valid and effective to achieve peace.

[Oscar Perez] Dr Godoy, I would first like to thank you for this night of political culture you have offered us through Radio Sandino's microphones, and this is evident in the noble way in which you have spoken throughout your participation. I would like to ask you: Is there unity within the PLI? Is there division within the PLI?

[Godoy] To put it simply, no. Of course, there are different opinions, but this has been part of our history as liberals, because one of the things that we defend most is the right to dissent. Therefore, despite any differences of opinion, the party remains united. Even those liberals who do not have a party will assert this in the near future.

[Oscar Perez] Who are the liberals without a party, Doctor?

[Godoy] There are persons who, for different reasons, have preferred to remain at the sidelines of party disciplines. They say they are liberals, but they are not members of an organization. I know they are all looking toward the future, and they will act accordingly.

[Joaquin Absalon Pastora] My dear Doctor, my question is in regard to the question that Allan Teffel asked regarding suspicions over the PLI's separation from the FPR. These suspicions make the PLI, with this new trait, an opposition party. I think this question was not honestly answered in the past on this program.

What we would like to know, Dr Godoy, regarding the terms opposition and dissent -- which were commonly used by opposition parties during the Somozist dictatorship, because the tyrant had to be aggressively opposed -- is how are we to view the term opposition within the context of the new phase that Nicaragua is experiencing. Specifically, in order to clarify and orient the public opinion, and so that the PLI's true position at this time will be known -- especially since you have resigned from the Labor Ministry to fully dedicate yourself to your party's presidency -- the specific question is, what is the PLI at this time? Is it an opposition party or a dissident party? What is your just and true position within the revolutionary process in Nicaragua?

[Godoy] It is a liberal party. Regarding the term opposition, it is a matter of how it is taken. I could look at it from various angles. The first is that if we go to the elections, it will not be to adopt the same programs used by, let us say, the FSLN or any other party. In this regard, we would necessarily have to oppose, and this also implies dissent. Dissent because we do not share certain ideas, such as the continuation of a state of emergency, for instance. Meanwhile, we have said repeatedly that we do not desire or hope that the course of the necessary transformations in the country be reversed.

It is only that we view these transformations as a different mechanism, as is commonly said, or as a different procedure based on consensus, based on the approval of the majority of Nicarguans. I do not know if this will help you to present our proposal to public opinion, but in any case, the proposal that we are going to make to the Nicaraguan people and the option that the PLI represents at this stage are on the way, and it will not be long before they appear.

[Diaz Reyes] My first question is: Does the PLI decision to participate in the elections -- which you claim does not separate the PLI from the goals of the revolution -- hinder the process of patriotic unity, in view of the fact that the danger of aggression still exists? Also, what do you really think of those who have never been part of the patriotic unity plan, and who, within the framework of the elections, which are another way to unite this country, continue to create obstacles to participation in a unity plan that would further unite this country? I think that after 4 November, after the first free elections in Nicaragua have taken place, this patriotic unity and this true unity of the Nicaraguan people will be even stronger.

[Godoy] Yes, Javier, you were not speaking of the patriotic unity in response to the foreign threat, which is very important. However, internal unity in response to the democratic development project of this country is also very important. My experience indicates that after these past 4 years many more people than you can imagine agree that the changes should continue, but they differ on the methods for making these changes. Therefore, the prospect of uniting the greatest number of Nicarguans around a national unity plan is perfectly possible if we manage to separate ourselves from that feeling of monopoly regarding the procedures to carry it out.

[Francisco Rodriguez Tellez] I want to express a concern that none of my colleagues have thought of, since it is of great importance at this time: Namely, the 15-minute television spots. I would like to know your opinion after learning [words indistinct] and after suffering injuries and imprisonment under the previous government, if the history of the PLI and the other parties which perhaps have less history behind them can be revealed in the 15-minute electoral campaign spots that each party will be granted? In the second place, as president of the PLI are you satisfied with the opportunity to speak on television for 15 minutes once a week, since we do not have any word on the radio spots yet, and at this time I prefer not to [passage indistinct].

I would like to know for the nation's information if you have any opinion on whether these 15 minutes favor or do not favor your party and the others, and whether you are satisfied.

[Godoy] I will be glad to comment. In reality, I would say that my opinion is not favorable to 15 minutes. It should be a lot more.

SOCIAL CHRISTIANS CHALLENGE FSLN TO DEBATE

PA182253 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 84 p 5

[Excerpts] The Social Christian Party [PSC], through its president, on Sunday in Leon once again called on the FSLN to hold a national dialogue immediately and challenged the FSLN to a public debate so that the Nicaraguan people can judge the different political currents. At a political event held at the Alex Theater, the departmental junta of the PSC paid homage to the founders of the organization. Almost 500 persons attended the event, despite a lack of propaganda and a lack of adequate transportation for the delegations from the Leon municipalities.

The CEN Was Present

Representatives of the National Executive Council [Consejo Ejecutivo Nacional -- CEN] included Agustin Jarquin Anaya, Erick Ramirez Benavente, Filiberto Sarria Padilla, and Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez, along with Maria Lourdes Zapata, the departmental vice president.

Dr Jose Dolores Baltodano welcomed those present, and exalted the virtues and perseverance of the founding members of the PSC.

The closing address at the testimonial to the founders of the PSC was given by party president Agustin Jarquin Anaya. He began by pointing out that the defects of the past will exist, that the majority of the Nicaraguan people live in hovels, and that a minority live in better homes and receive allowances from the state. He said there is an effort to make the Nicaraguan people yield to hunger, through the rationing of the so-called CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee], and that the draining of the Nicaraguan youths at the borders has to be stopped.

There has been an effort, he added, to destroy this revolution, but we are sure that the youth will not allow this. He said that the Sandinist leaders have irresponsibly turned a deaf ear to the National Reconciliation Plan and they are forcing the PSC to continue its civic struggle. He said that during the last CEN meeting three decisions were approved.

1. It was confirmed that the PSC will withdraw from the Electoral Law discussion.

2. The PSC will have greater participation in the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, which hears the Nicaraguan people's complaints.

3. The PSC calls for a strengthening of the democratic organizations that struggled against Somozism and are now civically struggling against the FSLN because the FSLN has betrayed the claims of the Nicaraguan revolution.

In conclusion, Jarquin Anaya made a new call to the FSLN to hold a national dialogue to resolve problems without foreign interference because the PSC does not fear the people's decisions.

He also proposed that the elections be supervised by Latin American countries, just as General Augusto Cesar Sandino requested in 1928. Finally, he challenged the FSLN leaders to a public debate, so that the people can judge for themselves who the real traitors of the Nicaraguan revolution are.

11 DEAD, 1 MISSING AFTER ATTACK IN JINOTEGA

PA191948 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Eleven companeros were killed and one is missing as a result of a cowardly counterrevolutionary ambush staged at the La Camallona estate (San Jose del Bocay), Jinotega Department on Saturday, 17 March. This was confirmed by Deputy Commander Javier Lopez from the Interior Ministry's regional headquarters in the 6th region. He added that the criminals fled after staging the ambush. He said that the 11 companeros who were killed were returning from (El Bocay) and were headed toward (El Cua) when the incident took place.

The names of the murdered companeros are Francisco Canales, Hector Ernesto Mendieta, and Guillermo Jimenez Cordova, members of Battalion 80-11 of Granada; Enrique Medina Lopez and Alfonso Luna, members of Battalion 46-44 (El Bocay); Martin Mesa Flores, a member of the military service in (Cua) and a native of Jinotega; Martin Qua, an expert from the office of the deputy minister for adult education; Guadalupe Montiel, an FSLN member; Ernesto Gutierrez, the pickup truck driver; Marvin Mora Sanyo, a member of the FSLN propaganda commission in (El Cua) and a native of Leon; and an unidentified militia member. Companero Francisco Picai is missing.

BRIEFS

SELA AID -- Luis Ramirez Valverde, secretary of the Action Committee for the Reconstruction of Nicaragua, CARN, has announced that since 1979 the member countries of the Latin American Economic System, SELA, have contributed $800 million in assistance to Nicaragua. He indicated that CARN has provided assistance in the fields of agriculture, housing, fisheries, and transportation. [Summary] [Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 84 PA]

LIBYAN INVESTMENT PROJECT -- At the inauguration of the first Nicaraguan-Libyan investment project, Agriculture Minister Jaime Wheelock said that the government has yet to meet the people's demands for food, which are becoming greater each day. Wheelock indicated that the joint Nicaraguan-Libyan project contemplates the production of 100,000 quintals of corn in an area of 2,000 manzanas, to be followed by a yearly production of 80,000 quintals of cotton. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 84 PA]

BULGARIAN MINING EXPERTS ARRIVE -- The mixed Bulgarian-Nicaraguan subcommission's working group for mining has arrived in Nicaragua where it will serve the country's mining industry for 1 and 1/2 months. The group includes geology, mining, and metallurgy experts. The commission will discuss the overall problems of the area of northern Zelaya and will later make recommendations to the Mines Ministry. [Excerpt] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Mar 84 PA]

CASTRO, ANGOLAN PRESIDENT SIGN JOINT DECLARATION

Dos Santos Honors Jose Marti

PA191550 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, and his delegation has placed a floral wreath in front of the monument dedicated to national Cuban hero Jose Marti at the Plaza of the Revolution, in Havana.

The Angolan president arrived in the capital this afternoon at the Jose Marti International Airport and was received by Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Dos Santos has come at Cuban President Castro's invitation, and it is expected that during his stay in this country he will hold talks with the Cuban chief of state and with several ministers.

Leaders Meet for Talks

PA191551 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] President Fidel Castro and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos presided over the official talks that began today between the two countries in Havana. Various aspects of the relations between the two parties and governments and of the international situation, particularly developments in southern Africa, were discussed.

After the talks Fidel Castro hosted a reception in honor of the Angolan delegation, attended by Cuban Communist Party Politburo members and government leaders.

Delegation Visits Isle of Youth

FL191405 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Maria (Manboca), MPLA Central Committee member and secretary of economy [as heard], headed the Angolan delegation which has toured places of interest in Cuba's special municipality of the Isle of Youth. Minister of Education Jose Ramon Alvarez Fernandez has been accompaning the Angolan delegation headed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Maria (Manboca) gave a short speech to the Angolan students who are studying at the (Fray Mirieda school). She told them that they were the vanguard of Angola's reconstruction. She also thanked Cuba for its position of solidarity with Angola.

Bilateral Issues Discussed

FL191410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Commander in Chief of Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, MPLA chairman, have met for talks.

The talks, which began on Saturday, have taken place in a climate of mutual understanding and friendship. During the official talks the leaders discussed various aspects of bilateral relations between the two governments and parties as well as a detailed study on the international situation, particularly developments in southern Africa.

After the talks, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro hosted a reception for the Angolan delegation. Officials from the Politburo, Secretariat, Council of Ministers vice presidents, ministers, FAR officers, state organization representatives, and others attended the reception. Fidel Castro and Dos Santos toured the Cuban countryside on Sunday.

Talks Conclude

FL200254 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0225 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] The official conversations between the Republic of Cuba and the People's Republic of Angola concluded in Havana today. They were presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

During the conversations, which took place in a fraternal friendly atmosphere of mutual understanding, the two leaders discussed bilateral relations between Angola and Cuba and conducted a detailed study of the international situation, especially in the southern cone of Africa.

At the end of the conversations, the two comrades, Fidel Castro and Jose Eduardo dos Santos, signed a joint declaration reflecting the common position of the Governments of Cuba and Angola on the basis for a negotiated solution to the conflict in southern Africa that will eliminate present tensions and assure peace and full independence for the nations in that region.

Joint Declaration Issued

PA200502 Havana International Service in Spanish 0415 GMT 20 Mar 84

["Text" of Cuban-Angolan joint declaration signed in Havana on 19 March by Cuban President Fidel Castro and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the occasion of the latter's visit to Cuba]

[Text] More than 2 years ago, the Governments of the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba, in their joint declaration of 4 February 1982, which was disseminated worldwide, clearly explained their principled position regarding the tense situation prevailing in the southern cone of Africa. The period that has elapsed since then has only confirmed the justness of all the points contained in that declaration, which has won the approval of international public opinion and the virtually unanimous sympathy of all the countries of the world, with the shameful exception of the Governments of the United States of America and South Africa, which aberrantly maintain the pernicious formula of the so-called "linkage" [in English], which is devoid of any legal or moral basis and is repudiated worldwide, except by its authors.

The heroic resistance of the Angolan people, firmly supported by their internationalist allies, has persuaded the imperialist aggressors of the impossibility of subjugating the People's Republic of Angola and liquidating its revolutionary process, and has obliged it to accept negotiations on new bases.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola has kept the Cuban Government informed in detail on the course of the conversations currently being held with South Africa and the United States of America, with the objective, on the part of Angola, of searching for a principled basis for a negotiated solution to the conflict that the Angolan people have faced for years with the South African aggressors, and of creating conditions that will make viable the immediate application of Resolution 435-78 of the UN Security Council and the independence of Namibia.

In accordance with this peace effort on the part of Angola, the joint declaration of 4 February remains fully in effect and constitutes a principled basis for any negotiated solution that will eliminate the existing tension and ensure peace and total independence for the nations of this region.

Strictly in keeping with the provisions of this joint declaration, the Governments of Cuba and Angola reiterate that they will reinitiate [reiniciar], by their own decision and in exercise of their sovereignty, the execution of the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist military contingent as soon as the following requisities are fulfilled;

1. The unilateral withdrawal of the racist South African troops from Angolan territory.

2. The strict application of Resolution 435-78 of the UN Security Council, the accession of Namibia to its true independence, and the total withdrawal of the South African troops that are illegally occupying that country.

3. An end to any act of direct aggression or threat of aggression against the Republic of Angola on the part of South Africa, the United States of America, and their allies.

Together with these three requirements it will also be necessary, as the Angolan Government expressed in its 26 August 1983 declaration signed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, to end all aid to the counterrevolutionary organization UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], and any other puppet organization by South Africa, the United States, and their allies. Satisfaction of these demands would mean respect for the norms of international law and the UN Charter, and compliance with the many resolutions issued by the UN Security Council and General Assembly, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OAU.

The Cuban Government, on behalf of the Cuban people, honors the heroism of the Angolan people, who for almost a quarter of a century have been waging a liberation war against the colonialists, the racists, and the imperialist masters and their lackeys, and who have paid a high price in blood in order to gain Angola's independence and to provide internationalist aid to other brother countries.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola expresses the infinite gratitude of the Angolan people for the internationalist aid of the Cuban people in Angola's liberation struggle during the past two decades,and expresses its highest praise for the generosity, sacrifice, and heroism of the 200,000 Cubans who have been sent to Angola to help in the military and civilian fields in order to secure the independence, territorial integrity, and national reconstruction of Angola, thus offering a historic contribution to the cause of all the peoples of the continent.

The two governments express their admiration of and solidarity with the heroic struggle being waged by the peoples of Namibia and South Africa under the direction of the sole and legal representatives, SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] and the African National Congress, against the disgraceful apartheid regime, and reaffirm their conviction that such a repugnant regime is historically condemned to disappear.

Issued simultaneously in the city of Havana on this 19th day of March, 1984, in Spanish and Portuguese, each original document holding equal validity.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba

[Signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President of the People's Republic of Angola

ECONOMIC MEETINGS HELD WITH ALGERIAN DELEGATION

FL191713 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Delegations from Cuba and Algeria have begun meetings on their respective economic planning systems and on expanding cooperation between the two countries. Humberto Perez, alternate member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, vice president of the Council of Ministers, and minister president of JUCEPLAN [Central Planning Board], heads the Cuban delegation. The Algerian delegation is headed by Ali Oubouzar, minister of planning and national development.

It was announced that during the meetings Algeria expressed an interest in Cuba's experience in areas of social, education, public health, and demographic planning as well as successes Cuba has had in establishing a centralized economic system. Both Humberto Perez and Ali Oubouzar emphasized both governments' interest in furthering bilateral cooperation and extending it to encompass all economic areas.

SCIENTIFIC DELEGATION ARRIVES IN PRAGUE

FL191912 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Wilfredo Torres, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences [ACC], is heading a delegation which arrived in Prague, Czechoslovakia. The delegation will participate in the third CEMA meeting on scientific-technical cooperation.

The CEMA member countries will study programs they wish to carry out over the next 15 to 20 years, particularly those concerning microelectronics and automation.

MEXICAN IMSS DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR MEETINGS

FL191634 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Ricardo Garcia Sainz, director general of the Mexican Social Security Institute [IMSS], has arrived in Cuba at the head of a delegation. He was met at the airport by Joaquin Benavides, Cuba's minister president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security [CETSS].

Some of the activities which the Mexican delegation will be participating in include visits to organizations and meetings for exchanging information and experiences dealing with social security and medical attention for workers.

ECLA CONFERENCE TO BEGIN IN LIMA ON 29 MAR

PA190414 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The 20th period of sessions of the United Nations' ECLA will begin in Lima, Peru, on 29 March. The meeting will initially be held at the level of experts and then will be held at the ministerial level. The ministerial level meeting will open with speeches by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

The conference will study the application in Latin America and the Caribbean of the international strategy for development in the 1980's that was approved by the UN General Assembly. One of the main topics will be the huge Latin American foreign debt, which already amounts to $340 billion.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION VIEWS EL SALVADOR

PA182300 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The UN Human Rights Commission has condemned any type of foreign intervention in El Salvador's domestic affairs and has called for a stop to the growing supply of weapons to the Salvadoran Army in order to prevent greater bloodshed. In a resolution issued in Geneva, the UN commission stressed that the only path to solving the Salvadoran crisis is dialogue among all the parties involved in the conflict.

The document demanded that the Salvadoran regime respect human rights and stated that neither the amnesty law nor the creation of a government commission to watch over human rights has changed the repressive situation existing in the country.

NEWSWEEK PHOTOGRAPHER KILLED IN EL SALVADOR

PA182301 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] U.S. photographer John Hoagland was killed near the Salvadoran city of Suchitoto during a clash between guerrillas and government forces. According to newsmen accompanying him, Hoagland was with a group of colleagues when he was hit by rifle fire. Hoagland, a photographer for the magazine NEWSWEEK, had worked in several Central American countries for 5 years.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran revolutionary leader Guillermo Manuel Ungo has said that the presidential elections in El Salvador are just a public relations ploy to confuse international public opinion. The elections, he said, are planned for war and not for peace. They are only a means to calm international public opinion and to increase U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran regime, the leader of the Salvadoran FDR told a Canadian television network.

Journalists Demand Investigation

PA191725 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The Association of Foreign Correspondents in Mexico [ACEM] and the FLAP [Federation of Latin American Journalists] have demanded that the Salvadoran regime investigate the killing of U.S. journalist John Hoagland, which took place in El Salvador on 16 March.

After charging that Hoagland was killed by a rocket fired by the Army, ACEM expressed its concern over the fact that the death squads had threatened Hoagland before he was killed, prompting him to leave El Salvador temporarily.

FLAP attributed the crime to Alvaro Magana's regime and stressed the need to end the killings and the implacable persecution that the regime and its fascist forces have unleashed against journalists. FLAP noted that Hoagland is the 19th journalist to be killed in El Salvador, where actions are routinely carried out to silence the truth as to what is taking place there and where unacceptable violations of the freedom of expression and information are standard occurrences.

John Hoagland was previously wounded in 1971, when the car he was traveling in was machine-gunned by the Salvadoran military. Mexican journalist Ignacio Rodriguez was killed in that attack.

INTERVIEW WITH SALVADORAN GUERRILLA LEADER UNGO

FL192133 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] We will next transmit PRENSA LATINA's recorded interview with Salvadoran revolutionary guerrilla leader Guillermo Ungo.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Dr Guillermo Ungo, how do you view the present situation in Central America, particularly in El Salvador, with respect to the new U.S. military forces, the increase in overflights by spy planes, and the bellicose statements made by some U.S. officials?

[Ungo] We have condemned the Reagan administration's conduct, which is a provocation, not only toward our people but toward Central America and Latin America. It is a demonstration of U.S. Latin American foreign policy, political conduct, and will, based on threats, blackmail, violence, and military measures.

A comparison must be made between Reagan's position and that of the FMLN and FDR. We have made public statements at the international level that the Salvadoran elections are designed for war and not for peace. We promise that elections will not be fought by military means so that the Salvadoran people will not suffer the consequences. We also promise that we will not politically boycott the elections because there is no real reason to do so, since we are aware that the elections are controlled and directed by the government and by Washington.

The Reagan administration's answer to this is to use the elections as a pretext to increase its military involvement and intervention in El Salvador. The administration has said, as a pretext, that we will not keep our promise. They can no longer say that we have stated we will disrupt the elections. But what the administration will do by using this pretext -- trying to cover up, support, and watch over the Salvadoran elections -- is to build an operation of military intervention. They are deploying nearly 2,000 U.S. soldiers to the Salvadoran border, deploying powerful warships, and sending airplanes which daily violate Salvadoran territory in numerous overflights, seemingly prepared to attack the FMLN. These are all signs, constantly more numerous, more concrete, and more real, of great involvement. The elections are becoming more like a smoke screen with which the United States is trying to hide this extensive and more intensive escalation. The U.S. actions come close to being a massive, direct invasion. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR'S FMLN CONDEMNS ELECTORAL PRACTICES

FL161527 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] El Salvador's FMLN has stated that current electoral practices are effective means for the regime to repressively control the population. A report from the Salvadoran press agency SALPRESS states that by using a sophisticated computer system under U.S. experts' supervision -- for preparing voters' lists, the regime will be able to exert a great deal of pressure on the Salvadoran people. SALPRESS adds that -- through this system officials will be able to indentify youths who, under mandatory drafting practices, will be forced to enlist in the Armed Forces.

Meanwhile, a second wave of strikes is taking place before the upcoming elections and a climate of violence which reached its peak with the murder of retired Colonel Tito Adelberto Rosa, is being experienced. These incidents characterize the situation in this small Central American country.

Press agencies reported the regime's pretentious anti-guerrilla offensive in El Salvador's eastern region in an attempt to destroy guerrilla positions in that area. More than 3,000 soldiers were sent to San Miguel, La Union, and Morazan Departments, bordering Honduras, while U.S. and Honduran troops remain in surrounding areas. In the last few hours it has been reported that fighting was under way on Miracapa and San Marcos Hills in San Miguel Department, where about 10 soldiers, led by U.S. advisers, were shot down by guerrilla fire.

The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM] stated in Mexico that the United States feels obligated to legitimize, through the use of armed force, an option which the Salvadoran people currently reject. The PSUM, the first leftist Mexican Party in Mexico, stated that preparations are under way for an open invasion by U.S. troops of El Salvador. According to the PSUM, this would take place a few days before that it described as an electoral farce.

Camilo Balqui Cachi, a Mexican researcher, has stated that the United States continues to use chemical and biological weapons in El Salvador, as it did in Vietnam.

It was also reported that 2 powerful bombs exploded in the downtown and northeastern sections of San Salvador, leaving large portions of the capital without power.

FMLN FOILS ARMY OFFENSIVE IN EASTERN EL SALVADOR

FL170140 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army is continuing its unsuccessful efforts to dislodge the guerrillas from eastern El Salvador in what is said to be the prelude to a U.S. invasion. In the last few hours there was fighting in San Miguel and Morazan Departments, the latter of which is located next to the Honduran border where U.S. military forces are being concentrated.

The U.S. Department of State coordinator for public diplomacy for Latin America and the Caribbean, Otto Reich, today stated in Washington that his country will not hesitate to defend its interests in Central America, citing the precedent of Grenada. Reich responded via satellite to numerous questions of newspapermen from various parts of the world concerning the elections scheduled by the Salvadoran Government for 25 March.

Takes Initiative

PA190401 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Important actions by the Salvadoran guerrilla forces, including the attack on the Army's 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel, has halted a spectacular offensive by the Salvadoran regime which was supported by the United States and Honduras. The rebel station Radio Venceremos reported that FMLN units took the initiative in all the actions, and it stressed that the San Miguel Garrison was hit at least 40 times by mortar shells, which caused considerable damage to that important military installation.

Radio Venceremos added that at the same time the guerrillas attacked the San Sebastian Garrison and staged several actions in eastern El Salvador, including the seizure and mining of important stretches of the three main highways that lead to the capital. The guerrilla station also reported fighting in El Triunfo, and the areas near Suchitoto and San Luis de la Reina. It also reported that the insurgents occupied the town of Poloros, located about 200 km from San Salvador.

Other reports indicate that thousands of workers, including those of the Tourism Institute, the Agriculture and Public Works Ministries, and the National Lottery remain on strike in demand of higher wages and the release of many union leaders.

Launches New Campaign

FL191614 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] El Salvador's FMLN has begun a new offensive with a surprise attack on the military barracks in San Miguel. The new offensive is called "No to the Election Farce and Yes to the People's War?" Radio Venceremos broadcast guerrilla Commander Joaquin Villabos' announcement of the start of the new campaign with the attack of El Salvador's third most important city.

About 5,000 soldiers tried to dislodge the guerrillas from their positions in the area, but the FMLN's offensive completely overwhelmed the military's impressive display of force. San Miguel, located about 140 km east of San Salvador, is the 3d Infantry Brigade's headquarters, an elite corps under the command of Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, who U.S. advisers consider to be the military's best combat officer.

A guerrilla leader, referring to the new campaign, said that the military's incompetence was clearly demonstrated when it sent 5,000 soldiers to die in an offensive in [word indistinct] while the FMLN attacked important positions in other areas.

Commander Joaquin Villalobos said war would continue before, during, and after the elections, and that there will be no respite to allow the dictatorship to carry out a political action the people do not accept.

Army Suffers 45 Casualties

PA191720 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has suffered some 45 dead and wounded in an attack carried out by the FMLN against the Salvadoran regime in Suchitoto, Cuscatlan Department. The guerrillas attacked Army police, and national guard positions in Suchitoto, occoupying an area that included the health center, the main theater, and the power company

Other reports indicate that the traffic between eastern and western El Salvador has been disrupted by ongoing guerrilla-army battles on several stretches of the country's three main highways.

Important actions carried out by the FMLN in the last few hours, including their attack on the Army's 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel, have effectively paralyzed the spectacular offensive currently being undertaken by the Salvadoran regime, with U.S. and Honduran support.

SELA COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE AID TO NICARAGUA

FL191751 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The Action Committee for Nicaragua's Reconstruction [Comite de Acsion para la Reconstrusion de Nicaragua] will continue to aid this Central American country, which has suffered constant military attacks and is hard hit economically. A report on the 4-and-one-half-year work carried out by this committee -- created by SELA -- states that during this period aid to Nicaragua in the form of credit lines, loans, and grants came to $800 million. It states that despite Nicaragua's problems, the country shows evident economic development.

BORGE CITED ON U.S.-NICARAGUA TENSIONS

PA191745 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has said he holds the militaristic sectors in the United States responsible for tensions between the two countries and for the warlike stance assumed by the Washington government.

Borge made these statements in Managua during the talks he held with a delegation of U.S. lawyers and members of the movie industry (?visiting) Nicaragua. The Sandinist leader stressed that even though his country has not attacked the United States, Congress has allocated millions of dollars to the war being waged against Nicaragua. Borge added that the state of war in Nicaragua has been imposed by Washington, as proven by the mining of Nicaraguan harbors and the attacks by counterrevolutionary forces, which are armed and financed by the United States.

Borge told his listeners that if the U.S. public wants to send physicians, nurses, and teachers to Nicaragua, they will be welcomed.

NICARAGUA ISSUES JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH IRAN

PA190432 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] In a joint communique issued on Saturday, Iran and Nicaragua have condemned the U.S. plots against their respective revolutions and reiterated their desire to face and defeat any aggression. The two countries condemned the U.S. military presence and its joint maneuvers with other countries in both the Persian Gulf and Central America.

The two governments condemned the mining of Nicaraguan ports, stressed the need to end the presence of multinational forces in Lebanon, and rejected any plot to divide and break up that Middle East country.

Nicaragua and Iran reiterated their support for the Palestinian cause, condemned the U.S. intervention in Grenada, and expressed their support for the liberation struggles in Latin America. They also expressed opposition to the racist South African regime and expressed support for the Saharan people's struggle.

NICARAGUAN MINISTER RESIGNS TO RUN IN ELECTIONS

FL161615 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has accepted Labor Minister Virgilio Godoy's resignation. In a note made public by the Government's House Information Directorate, the Junta acknowledges Godoy's work in carrying out his duties.

The resignation letter. presented on 13 March, states that Godoy is resigning due to incompatibility between being minister of labor and campaigning for president. Godoy is president of the Independent Liberal Party and a candidate for president in elections to be held on 4 November 1984.

PCCH ASKS CHILEAN ARMY TO JOIN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE

PA181819 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] has called on the country's Armed Forces to stop supporting the tyranny and join the people in the struggle for freedom and democracy. It said that the Chilean Communists, together with the other opposition political parties and organizations, are waging a tenacious struggle for the dictatorship's overthrow, which, it said, is anxiously awaited by the majority of the people.

The PCCh said that the end of the Pinochet regime is approaching and that even representatives of those political circles that supported the tyrant realize this and are now joining the opposition. It concluded that the national acts of protest will not cease, indicating that the Chilean Communists believe that the people will achieve victory.

It was learned that clandestine organizations supporting the military regime have made threats and provocations against the Chilean church. Church spokesmen have said that four priests from Ancud received death threats from a so-called Commando of Defenders of the Homeland [Comando de Defensores de la Patria]. Similar threats were made against opposition leaders in Punta Arenas, where demonstrations were held to protest a recent visit by Augusto Pinochet.

ECUADOR GOVERNMENT MILITARIZES OIL INSTALLATIONS

PA170131 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The Ecuadoran Government has ordered the militarization of all oil installations in the country following the violent incidents that occurred in Napo-Pastaza Province, which resulted in eight injuries. The government has warned that an attack on any of these installations will be considered an attack on national security. For the past 2 weeks there have been strikes in Napo-Pastaza Province demanding immediate improvement to the highway, health, and education systems. Yesterday Esmeraldas Province, located on the Pacific coast, joined the strike. The pipeline for oil extracted in Napo-Pastaza Province ends in Esmeraldas Province.

According to a communique released by the Ecuadoran Defense Ministry, eight people were wounded on Tuesday near the (Chucupindi) gas plant in Napo-Pastaza when guards shot at unidentified people who were trying to disarm them. In late February two people were shot during a confusing incident near an oil camp, and last week part of the oil pipeline that extends from Napo-Pastaza to Esmeraldas was dynamited. Press reports state that the Provinces of Azuay, Cotopaxi, and Manabi, in southern Ecuador, will probably support the strike.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ST LUCE SUBMITS TAX-FREE BUDGET TO HOUSE

FL152158 Bridgetown CANA in English 2117 GMT 15 Mar 84

[By Everton Barnes]

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 15 (CANA) -- Antigua and Barbuda's finance minister, John St Luce, today presented a tax-free 176 million dollar budget for the financial year 1984-85 which anticipates a total deficit of 68.5 million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.).

St Luce told the House of Representatives (lower house of Parliament) the budget is aimed at economic consolidation. "Our aim is on holding down expenditure and... cutting it in some cases and, most important, improving the entire structure and functioning of our revenue departments," he said.

St Luce estimated total recurrent expenditure for the fiscal year at 124,550,943 dollars, revenue of 107,511,557 dollars, leaving a projected current account deficit of 17,039,386 dollars.

Capital expenditure will amount to 51.5 million dollars, with 49 million earmarked for development projects in Antigua, and the remainder going to the sister island of Barbuda.

The largest slice of the recurrent budget -- 20 million dollars, or 16.3 per cent -- goes to servicing the national debt, which the minister said government records, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank confirmed amounted to some 53 million U.S. dollars.

Acknowledging that the extent of the national debt has long been a major political issue here, St Luce said: "This government responded to the needs of its people and borrowed money externally for many projects, most of which are infrastructural in nature." These, he said, included expansion of the telephone system, factory shells, constructions for industrial development, generators to improve electricity supply, water development, and distribution and housing.

The finance minister said that the debt created was necessary, but plans were afoot to reschedule some items, service others, and liquidate some through dissolution of assets. Antigua and Barbuda has assets valued at about one billion E.C. dollars.

Turning to the country's economic performance, St Luce said that despite an apparent drop in the growth rate in 1983 to under 3 per cent, the country has been experiencing low inflation in combination with steady growth over the past five years. "The average rate of growth has been in the region of 4 per cent per annum in the late 1970's and early 1980's so far, and the rate of inflation for 1982 over 1981 was 4.2 per cent, and for 1983 it is estimated to be approximately 2.5 per cent over 1982."

The combination of steady growth and reduced inflation had benefitted citizens here, and government planned to reinforce that situation with the appropriate policies and programmes for this year, the minister said.

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT

FL171646 Bridgetown CANA in English 1512 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 17 (CANA) -- The Dominica Government has extended for a further 12 months the provision of the Prevention of Terrorism Act enacted three years ago. According to the statutory rules and order issued by the government, the extension was approved last month by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, who is also minister of security.

The law was introduced at the height of alleged attempts by soldiers and opposition politicians to topple the Charles administration and following a spate of armed attacks by Rastafarians. Under the act a person cannot be granted bail. Section 17 of the act provides for extensions of its provisions.

GRENADA

JAMAICAN LAWYER TO DEFEND SOME COUP DETAINEES

FL162113 Bridgetown CANA in English 2103 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 16 (CANA) -- Jamaican lawyer Dudley Thompson, in Grenada to represent some of the detainees held in connection with last October's Army coup, has applied to the High Court for permission to practice at the local bar, he said today.

Eighteen of the reportedly 39 people held have been charged with murder or conspiracy to murder Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and seven others who died in the coup, but Thompson said he will not defend them.

"I am here to see and to apply to the court of justice to see that people who are put away have a chance to put their case before the world," he told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA). "I can tell you that," Thompson, a former Jamaica national security minister said.

Thompson declined to say who hired him. He said he was concerned about those people held since October without being charged.

HAITI

SECRET POLICE HEAD NAMED TO MONITOR HUMAN RIGHTS

FL161440 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] In a letter published in the government-controlled newspaper, Haiti's President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier has named the man in charge of the secret police, (Tuhaiby), as watchdog for human rights violations.

In the past, the secret police have arrested journalists and civil rights activists. In Haiti, it is against the law to criticize the head of state or officials of the government.

Political observers said the presidential letter to Roger Lafontant, minister of police, was aimed at showing the U.S. Government Haiti is taking measures to protect human rights so the U.S. Congress will approve $54 million in aid.

JAMAICA

SEAGA CLOSES CEMENT PLANT, ISSUES STATEMENT

FL192128 Bridgetown CANA in English 2007 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 17 (CANA) -- The State-owned cement company here was closed today on the orders of Prime Minister Edward Seaga until the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU) gives an undertaking that employees will end a work-to-rule and ensure normal operations. [sentence as received]

The sole cement plant here has been dogged by industrial problems for the past fortnight, and Seaga said the workers' action threatened irreparable damage to vital equipment, while the sharp decline in production at the 400,000 tonne-a-year plant held in the balance the jobs of thousands of construction workers.

Several construction sites have reportedly closed because of the cement shortage, and the Master Builders Association has warned that others could follow.

The dispute at the plant centres around a wage demand by the BITU, which is aligned to Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP), and what the company says it can afford to pay.

Last May, the BITU served a claim for a new contract that was to have started in July for wage increases of 85 percent spread over two years. The BITU, citing spiralling inflation and the plunging value of the Jamaican dollar, later revised upward to 125 per cent. However, during the negotiations, the BITU again shifted its position with a downward revision of 80 per cent spread equally over the two years.

The company said it couldn't finance such a contract that would cost 11 million dollars (one Jca dollar; 30 cents U.S.), and countered with a package that would cost seven million dollars.

The issue was recently sent to the industrial disputes tribunal but the employees have maintained their work-to-rule and have refused to do vital overtime work.

The union has, according to the government, insisted that no outside worker be brought in, while the employees yesterday refused to work casual loaders against whom they had objected for several months. Additionally, the government said, an agreement that obliged shift workers to remain on site until relieved was not being honoured.

Seaga said that the present financial position of the cement company would not allow it to meet union's wage claims "without placing the company in a position which would jeopardise its agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in respect of the large-scale expansion programme." The company through the Jamaica Government received a 67 million U.S. dollar loan to double its capacity and to switch from oil to coal for power generation. Jamaica is to provide 23 million U.S. dollars for the programme.

Seaga said that the company had a 24 million Jca dollar financial obligation this year for the expansion, and failure to make its contribution as required by the IDB agreement could lead to the bank cancelling the loan.

Given all the factors, Seaga said, "there was no alternative but to close the plant until normality is assured".

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GOVERNMENT CLOSES RADIO STATION, SEEKS DIRECTOR

FL192240 Bridgetown CANA in English 2307 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, March 18 (CANA-REUTER) -- The Dominican Republic Government today closed down a radio station, saying it broadcast false information about recent disturbances at the state university. The government information office said Radio Central had falsely reported that university students had hurled stones at President Jorge Blanco this week near the university campus.

The information office said it was searching for Radio Central Director Irving Perez, a close associate of former President and head of the opposition Reformist Party Joaquin Balaguer.

This capital has been the scene of student protests in recent weeks over an economic austerity programme imposed by Blanco's government, which this week signed a renewal agreement with the International Monetary Fund on a three-year, 450-million-dollar loan.

ECUADOR

ESMERALDAS, NAPO-PASTAZA RETURN TO NORMAL

PA191844 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Activity in the Provinces of Esmeraldas and Napo-Pastaza is slowly returning to normal. It is assumed that everything will be back to normal today. The Armed Forces are controlling these two provinces, which last Friday were declared security zones.

As a result of the special situation in Esmeraldas, 33 persons were arrested Saturday night for violating the curfew. Many vehicles had flat tires from the many nails that were thrown on city streets.

The strike committee met with General Jorge (Asanza), military commander of Esmeraldas Province, thanks to the mediation of Monsignor Enrique Bartoluti and Deputy Antonio Lara Jimenez. The committee claims that the state of emergency should be lifted before the strike is called off. The committee also requested the presence of a high-level commission to listen to the demands of the people of Esmeraldas and to release four people arrested during Saturday's demonstrations. General (Asanza) said he would guarantee the safety of the province in compliance with the emergency decree. He released three of the four persons under arrest. The fourth will be freed after an investigation is carried out.

Yesterday Esmeraldas had no urban transportation, and transportation within the province was limited because of a shortage of buses. There was plenty of food, and two gasoline stations protected by armed units resumed fuel sales. Fishing and commercial ports operated as usual.

It has been said that the purpose of the strike was to secure for Esmeraldas what the province legislators were unable to secure through their work in Congress.